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General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session

Official Records

74th plenary meeting

Monday, 20 December 2004, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Ping .... (Gabon)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Reports of the Third Committee

The Acting President: The General Assembly will consider the reports of the Third Committee on agenda items 93 to 105 and on sub-items (a) to (e) of item 105. I understand that consultations are still ongoing under agenda item 109. The report of the Third Committee on that item, contained in document A/59/609 will therefore be considered at a date to be announced.

I request the Rapporteur of the Third Committee, Mr. Carlos Enrique García González of El Salvador, to introduce, in one intervention, the reports of the Third Committee.

Mr. García González (El Salvador) (*spoke in Spanish*): I have the honour to introduce, for consideration by the plenary of the General Assembly, the reports of the Third Committee on the items entrusted to it by the Assembly.

Under agenda item 93, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 18 of document A/59/491 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 94, entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", the Third Committee recommends in paragraph 25 of document A/59/492 the adoption of three draft resolutions and, in paragraph 26, the adoption of two draft decisions.

Under agenda item 95, entitled "Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing", the Committee recommends in paragraph 14 of document A/59/493 the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 96, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", the Committee recommends in paragraph 39 of document A/59/494 the adoption of nine draft resolutions and, in paragraph 40 the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 97, entitled "International drug control", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 20 of document A/59/495, the adoption of four draft resolutions. Here, I would like to correct an omission in paragraph 16 of the report. The following delegations should be added as original sponsors of draft resolution IV (A/C.3/59/L.19/Rev.1): Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, the Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Poland, the United States of America and Uruguay.

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

Under agenda item 98, entitled "Advancement of women", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 27 of document A/59/496, the adoption of four draft resolutions and, in paragraph 28, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 99, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 14 of document A/59/497, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under agenda item 100, entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 24 of document A/59/498, the adoption of four draft resolutions.

Under agenda item 101, entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 35 of document A/59/499, the adoption of two draft resolutions and, in paragraph 36, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 102, entitled "Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 1995-2004", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 14 of document A/59/500, the adoption of one draft resolution and, in paragraph 15, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 103, entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 23 of document A/59/501, the adoption of three draft resolutions and, in paragraph 24, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under agenda item 104, entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 20 of document A/59/502, the adoption of three draft resolutions.

The report under agenda item 105, entitled "Human rights questions", has been issued in six parts, contained in documents A/59/503 and addenda 1 to 5. In paragraph 7 of document A/59/503, the Third Committee recommends the adoption of one draft decision.

Under item 105 (a), entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 20 of document A/59/503/Add.1, the adoption of three draft resolutions.

Under item 105 (b), entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 145 of document A/59/503/Add.2, the adoption of 22 draft resolutions.

Under item 105 (c), entitled "Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 60 of document A/59/503/Add.3, the adoption of four draft resolutions.

The reports of the Third Committee contained in documents A/59/503/Add.4 and Add.5 indicate that no proposals were submitted under items 105 (d), entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action", or 105 (e), entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights".

Finally, under agenda item 109, entitled "Programme planning", the report of the Third Committee contained in document A/59/609 indicates that the Committee took note of programme 19 in document A/59/6 (Prog. 19), and decided to transmit it, through the President of the General Assembly, to the Fifth Committee.

Before concluding, I should like to thank the other members of the Bureau of the Third Committee; their support and their cooperation — and the support of all members — helped ensure that the Committee was able to conclude its work successfully.

Having said that, I respectfully commend the reports of the Third Committee to the General Assembly for its consideration.

The Acting President: I wish at this stage to announce that the report of the Third Committee on agenda item 109 (A/59/609) will be considered by the Assembly at a later date.

If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Third Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Third Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that,

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in reports of the Third Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Third Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. That means that where recorded votes or separate votes were taken, we will do the same. I would also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Third Committee.

Agenda item 93

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/491)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 18 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/146).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 93?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 94

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/492)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 25 of its report and two draft decisions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 26 of the same report.

I give the floor to those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote or position before action is taken on the draft resolutions I to III and on draft decisions I and II.

Mrs. Tamlyn (United States of America): The United States dissociates itself from consensus on draft resolution I, "Celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond". We note that, on 6 December, this Assembly adopted by consensus a very similar resolution, resolution 59/111, entitled "Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family". General Assembly resolution 59/111 better reflects the current negotiated international agreement on how to recognize and celebrate this important milestone.

Draft resolution I, contained in document A/59/492, was originally negotiated in February 2004 at the Commission for Social Development, considerably prior to the 6 December consensus on resolution 59/111. Draft resolution I passed through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, where it was reported out of the Third Committee in mid-November. Therefore, resolution 59/111 remains the most recent negotiated agreement by the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on this subject.

Draft resolution I includes the phrase, "in different cultural, political and social systems various forms of the family exist" (second preambular paragraph). Going forward, we must consider that phrase in the context of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights definition of the family, and in the context of the Secretary-General's report of 23 July 2004, which stated:

> "Given the diversity of family structures and relationships, family policies should not focus on one type of family alone. Instead, they should take into account all types of family, including single-parent, compound, extended and recomposed families, and make provision for the different needs and particular circumstances of each". (A/59/176, para. 10)

On the occasion of the conclusion of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, my delegation takes this opportunity to state its appreciation for the efforts of the Government of Qatar in organizing and hosting the Doha International Conference for the Family. My delegation also welcomes the Doha Declaration of 30 November 2004 (A/59/592, annex).

Both General Assembly resolution 59/111 and today's draft resolution I call for Secretariat reporting and for the Assembly to continue consideration of issues related to the family at its sixtieth session. The United States delegation is confident that such reporting, Secretariat activities and intergovernmental consideration will draw definitively from General Assembly resolution 59/111 and from the Secretary-General's report in document A/59/176 on preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004.

Mr. Al-Sulaiti (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): The State of Qatar attaches great importance to issues relating to the family. Like the rest of the international community, we believe that the family is the basic unit of society and that it deserves to be supported and protected by society and the State. The Higher Council for Family Affairs was created in Qatar to ensure such support and protection for the family.

On that basis, and in response to the General Assembly's call last year, the State of Qatar has actively participated in celebrating the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family by hosting the Doha International Conference for the Family in November, which adopted the international Doha Declaration on the family. The delegation of Qatar submitted a draft resolution to the General Assembly entitled "Celebrating the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" (A/59/L.29) under agenda item 94, which the General Assembly adopted as resolution 59/111.

One of the reasons for the submission of that draft resolution was that draft resolution I in the present report of the Third Committee, submitted under the same item, did not reflect the past year's activities and events on the family, and did therefore not live up to its title. Draft resolution I was negotiated at last February's session of the Commission for Social Development. The Third Committee then decided on 14 December to submit draft resolution I to the plenary General Assembly for its consideration.

If this draft resolution is adopted, it would be the latest General Assembly resolution on the family. Although it makes reference to all previous resolutions, it does not refer to resolution 59/111, for the simple reason that that resolution had not been adopted when draft resolution I was formulated. In order not to hamper the work of the General Assembly, we have decided not to propose an amendment to the draft resolution at this late stage. Nevertheless, we would like to stress here that this is not the only resolution adopted this year providing mandates on issues related to the family.

The second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution includes a reference to various forms of the family in different cultural, political and social systems. My delegation believes that this language must be interpreted in a way that does not contradict the Universal Declaration of Human Rights definition of the family as the basic unit of society. We must not go counter to differing national legislation and religious beliefs related to the family in various societies.

On that basis, my delegation would like to dissociate itself from the consensus on draft resolution I recommended by the Third Committee in document A/59/492.

Ms. Groux (Switzerland) (*spoke in French*): My delegation would like very briefly to explain its position on draft resolution I, pertaining to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

We welcome the fact that the draft resolution bears in mind the family in all its forms — just as we stated the other day when we commemorated the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family —

whether as has been enshrined in various international commitments, including those emanating from the Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women, the Beijing+5 process, the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development, the Copenhagen+5 process and the special session of the General Assembly on children, or as set out in legal instruments such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the definition that we have accepted for many years on the basis of commitments all of us undertook on the basis of consensus.

The Acting President: We shall now take decisions on draft resolutions I to III and draft decisions I and II, which were recommended by the Third Committee in paragraphs 25 and 26, respectively, of its report contained in document A/59/492.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/147).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Policies and programmes involving youth: tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/148).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/149).

The Acting President: We turn now to draft decision I, entitled "Proposed supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities". The Third Committee adopted draft decision I. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The Acting President: Draft decision II is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004". May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt draft decision II, which was recommended by the Third Committee?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The Acting President: I call on the observer of the Holy See.

Archbishop Migliore (Holy See): My delegation would like to make some brief remarks on resolution 59/147, on the family. On 6 December, after lengthy negotiations, the Assembly adopted by consensus resolution 59/111, regarding the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family. Today, the Assembly has just adopted a resolution on the same subject that appears to move away from the unequivocal definition of the family as found in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in subsequent United Nations juridical instruments. The Holy See hopes that, in the future, the work of the Secretariat and intergovernmental considerations and activities will be guided by the consensus mandate of resolution 59/111.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 94?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 95

Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/493)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 14 of its report contained in document A/59/493. We shall now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing". The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/150).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 95?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 96

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/494)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it nine draft resolutions and one draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraphs 39 and 40, respectively, of its report contained in document A/59/494. We shall now take a decision on draft resolutions I to IX and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/151).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Assistance to least developed countries to ensure their participation in the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the sessions of conferences of States parties".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/152).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/153).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 59/154).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Action against corruption: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 59/155).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VI was adopted (resolution 59/156).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VII is entitled "International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VII was adopted (resolution 59/157).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VIII is entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VIII was adopted (resolution 59/158).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IX is entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime

Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IX was adopted (resolution 59/159).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice". May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 96?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 97

International drug control

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/495)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 20 of its report. We will now take decisions on draft resolutions I to IV.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Control of cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/160).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Providing support to the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to eliminate illicit opium and foster stability and security in the region". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/161).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Follow-up on strengthening the systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/162).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 59/163).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 97?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 98

Advancement of women

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/496)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 27 of its report and one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 28 of the same report.

Before proceeding further, I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution III, entitled "Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women", is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on draft resolution III as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

I now give the floor to the representative of Qatar to speak in explanation of vote before the voting.

Mr. Al-Sulaiti (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): When the Third Committee adopted the draft resolution on the future operation of the International Research and

Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, Spain joined the list of its sponsors.

As to the draft resolution in the Third Committee's report entitled "Working towards the elimination of crimes against women and girls committed in the name of honour", my country accords the utmost importance to such issues. Women enjoy their full rights in the State of Qatar. The High Council for Family Affairs, created to protect and promote the rights of families and women, has always stressed equality of rights between men and women and proscribed all discrimination against women. Qatari law in particular provides for severe punishment for crimes against women. We therefore support the condemnation of violent crimes committed women in the name of honour.

Qatar therefore regrets that the delegation which submitted the draft resolution failed during informal consultations to respond to demands by some States to omit reference to paragraph 3 (i) on sexual and reproductive health. Such terminology has many interpretations, some of which are counter to our national legislation and religious beliefs. We therefore dissociate ourselves from this draft resolution and wish to have our decision be reflected in the official records of this session.

The Acting President: We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I, II and IV and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/164).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Working towards the elimination of crimes against women and girls committed in the name of honour". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/165).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Trafficking in women and girls". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 59/166).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions". May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 98.

Agenda item 99

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/497)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 14 of its report. We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that this Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/167).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/168).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 99.

It was so decided.

Agenda item 100

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/498)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 24 of its report. We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to IV.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that this Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/169).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/170).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "New international humanitarian order". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/171).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do that also?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 59/172).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 100?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 101

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/499)

The Acting President: The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 35 of its report and one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 36 of the same report.

Before proceeding further, I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution II, entitled "Rights of the child", is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on draft resolution II as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

We will now take a decision on draft resolution I and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "The situation of and assistance to Palestinian children".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 117 votes to 5, with 62 abstentions (resolution 59/173).

[Subsequently the delegation of Costa Rica advised the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child". May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 101.

The President took the Chair.

Agenda item 102

Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 1995-2004

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/500)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution and a draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraphs 14 and 15, respectively, of its report contained in document A/59/500.

We shall now take a decision on the draft resolution and the draft decision. We turn first to the draft resolution, entitled "Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People". The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/174).

The President (*spoke in French*): We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People". May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 102?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 103

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/501)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions and one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraphs 23 and 24, respectively, of its report contained in document A/59/501.

We shall now take a decision on draft resolutions I to III and on the draft decision.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Measures to be taken against political platforms and activities based on doctrines of superiority and violent nationalist ideologies which are based on racial discrimination or ethnic exclusiveness and xenophobia, including neo-Nazism". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/175).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II is entitled "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/176).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution III is entitled "Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 183 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions (resolution 59/177).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Report of the Secretary-General under agenda item 103". May I take it that the General Assembly decides to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 103?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 104

Right of peoples to self-determination

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/502)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 20 of its report contained in document A/59/502.

We shall now take a decision on draft resolutions I to III.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Nauru, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Switzerland, Tonga, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 129 votes to 46, with 13 abstentions (resolution 59/178).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II is entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 179 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions (resolution 59/179).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution III is entitled "Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/180).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 104?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 105

Human rights questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 7 of its report contained in document A/59/503.

The General Assembly shall now take action on the draft decision, entitled "Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with human rights questions". May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 105.

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 20 of its report.

Before proceeding, I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution I, entitled "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families", is postponed to a later date to allow time for the review of its programme budget implications by the Fifth Committee. The Assembly will take action on draft resolution I as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

The General Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions II and III.

Draft resolution II is entitled "Equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Brazil, Equatorial Guinea, Paraguay, Ukraine.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 128 votes to 52, with 4 abstentions (resolution 59/181).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Lebanon advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution III is entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/182).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 105.

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches to the enjoyment of fundamental human rights and fundamental freedoms

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it 22 draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 145 of its report.

I call on the representative of the United States in explanation of position before the voting.

Ms. Zack (United States of America): With regard to draft resolution XV under sub-item (b) of agenda item 105, on the subject of extrajudicial, summary of arbitrary executions, the United States would like to bring to the attention of the General Assembly the amendment proposed by our delegation to the reference to the International Criminal Court in operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution during its consideration by the Third Committee (see A/59/503/Add.2, para. 93). We are not going to resubmit the amendment in plenary meeting, but we would like to state that our position has not changed. The United States wishes to underscore that the international community should use all available and appropriate international, regional and domestic judicial mechanisms to address the problem of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and to hold accountable those responsible for such crimes.

In addition, with regard to draft resolution XVIII under this agenda item, entitled "Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances", the United States would like to bring to the attention of the General Assembly the amendment proposed by our delegation to the reference to the International Criminal Court in the preambular paragraph of this resolution during its consideration by the Third Committee (see A/59/503/Add.2, para. 114). We will not resubmit the amendment in plenary meeting but we would like to state that our position has not changed. The United States wishes to underscore that the international community should use all available and appropriate international, regional and domestic judicial mechanisms to address the problem of crimes against humanity including widespread or systemic forced disappearances and to hold accountable those responsible for such crimes.

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representative of Cuba on a point of order.

Mr. Cumberbach Miguén (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation would like to draw attention to the fact that the delegation of Egypt should appear among the sponsors of draft resolution XI; the following delegations should appear as sponsors of draft resolution XX: Barbados, Benin, Cambodia, Egypt, Gabon, Papua New Guinea and Turkmenistan.

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representative of Bangladesh on a point of order.

Mrs. Naz (Bangladesh): Bangladesh should appear in the list of sponsors of draft resolution IV: "Human rights and extreme poverty".

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now take up the 22 draft resolutions one by one. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their votes or positions.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/183).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II is entitled "Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Brazil, Chile, Malawi, Singapore.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 129 votes to 53, with 4 abstentions (resolution 59/184).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution III is entitled "The right to development".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada, Japan, Sweden.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 181 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions (resolution 59/185).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution IV is entitled "Human rights and extreme poverty". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 59/186).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution V is entitled "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 59/187).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution VI is entitled "Human rights and unilateral coercive measures".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 132 votes to 53 (resolution 59/188).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution VII is entitled "Missing persons". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VII without a vote. May I take it the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VII was adopted (resolution 59/189).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution VIII is entitled "Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VIII was adopted (resolution 59/190).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution IX is entitled "Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IX without a vote. May I take it the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IX was adopted (resolution 59/191).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution X is entitled "Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution X without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution X was adopted (resolution 59/192).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XI is entitled "Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Fiji, Mexico, Nauru, Peru.

Draft resolution XI was adopted by 125 votes to 55, with 6 abstentions (resolution 59/193).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XII is entitled "Protection of migrants".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XII was adopted (resolution 59/194).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XIII is entitled "Human rights and terrorism".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, Chile, Fiji, Malawi, Nauru, Syrian Arab Republic.

Draft resolution XIII was adopted by 127 votes to 50, with 8 abstentions (resolution 59/195).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XIV is entitled "Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XIV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XIV was adopted (resolution 59/196).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XV is entitled "Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions".

Separate votes have been requested on operative paragraph 7 and on the words "including sexual orientation", after the words "for any discriminatory reason" in operative paragraph 8 (c) of draft resolution XV.

If there are no objections to those requests, I shall first put to the vote operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution XV, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Against:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Colombia, Djibouti, Dominica, Fiji, Ghana, Honduras, India, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Palau, Philippines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, United States of America, Zambia.

Operative paragraph 7 was retained by 86 votes to 44, with 39 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote the words "including sexual orientation" after the words "for any discriminatory reason" in operative paragraph 8 (c) of draft resolution XV, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Colombia, Dominica, Ghana, Grenada, Iraq, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname.

The words "including sexual orientation" were retained by 95 votes to 41, with 26 abstentions.

[Subsequently the delegation of Costa Rica advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution XV as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, China, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution XV as a whole was adopted by 142 votes to none, with 43 abstentions (resolution 59/197).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XVI is entitled "Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XVI was adopted (resolution 59/198).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XVII is entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance". A separate vote has been requested on operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution

XVII. If there is no objection to that request, I shall first put to the vote operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution XVII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia.

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tunisia.

Operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution XVII was retained by 105 votes to 35, with 19 abstentions.

[Subsequently, the delegations of Brazil and Costa Rica advised the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour; the delegation of Zambia had intended to abstain.]

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution XVII as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia

(Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Draft resolution XVII as a whole was adopted by 186 votes to none (resolution 59/199).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XVIII is entitled "Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XVIII was adopted (resolution 59/200).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XIX is entitled "Enhancing the role of regional, subregional and other organizations and arrangements in promoting and consolidating democracy".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Belarus, Bhutan, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution XIX was adopted by 172 votes to none, with 15 abstentions (resolution 59/201).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XX is entitled "The right to food".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Draft resolution XX was adopted by 182 votes to 3 (resolution 59/202).

[Subsequently, the delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XXI is entitled "Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan.

Draft resolution XXI was adopted by 122 votes to 3, with 61 abstentions (resolution 59/203).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Paraguay advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution XXII is entitled "Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Nauru, Paraguay, Peru, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution XXII was adopted by 118 votes to 55, with 13 abstentions (resolution 59/204).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 105.

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.3)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 60 of its report.

Before proceeding further, I should like to inform members that action on draft resolution I, entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar", is postponed to a later date, to allow time for the Fifth Committee to review its programme budget implications. The Assembly will take action on draft resolution I as soon as the report of the Fifth Committee on its programme budget implications is available.

The Assembly will thus take action on draft resolutions II to IV.

I now call on the representative of the United States, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote before the voting.

Mrs. Tamlyn (United States of America): With regard to draft resolution IV, under agenda item 105 (c), entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the United States would like to bring to the attention of the General Assembly the amendment proposed by our delegation to the reference to the International Criminal Court in operative paragraph 6 (f) of this draft resolution during its consideration by the Third Committee (see A/59/503/Add.3, para. 41). The United States delegation will not resubmit the amendment in plenary meeting, but we would like to state that our position has not changed. The United States wishes to underscore that those responsible for human rights and international humanitarian law violations as well as crimes against humanity should be held accountable through all appropriate national and international judicial mechanisms.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take action on draft resolution II, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 71 votes to 54, with 55 abstentions (resolution 59/205).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution III is entitled "Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan".

I call on the representative of Turkmenistan on a point of order.

Mrs. Ataeva (Turkmenistan) (*spoke in Russian*): I have asked for the floor under rule 74 of the Assembly's rules of procedure to request that no action be taken on draft resolution III, entitled "Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan".

The sponsors of the draft resolution have stated that the text was drafted on the basis of cooperation and that it reflects positive developments in Turkmenistan. Those developments are most impressive, taking into consideration the short time they have been under way. No one can deny the active, open and constructive approach taken by Turkmenistan to resolve issues pertaining to the advancement of human rights. The numerous steps taken by the Government of Turkmenistan in the field of human rights in just one year are evidence of that. One would have to be naïve, to say the least, to expect great results in such a period.

Reckless pressure has been exerted to push through this draft resolution at a time when our country has expressed its openness towards, and readiness for, constructive cooperation. That convinces us that the sponsors of the draft resolution have goals in mind other than the promotion of human rights. We believe that the proponents of draft resolutions such as this one have been sent very serious signals in the Third Committee when it comes to consideration of country-specific draft resolutions. They were unable to muster majority support for even one of them — not because Member States do not consider human rights issues to be of the highest priority, but because of the way in which the sponsors are trying to address those issues: by selectively targeting Member States without so much as making an effort to substantiate their allegations.

Sponsors should not to seek out the reasons for such an attitude towards country-specific draft resolutions on the part of States that do not support such texts. Instead, they should ask themselves whether they have chosen the right path and the correct approach to these issues. One cannot selectively blame one country for a certain violation while ignoring the very same sort of violation in one's own country. No one can claim that the human rights situation in his own country is ideal. Similarly, no one should seek to impose his own strategy and means for the construction of a democratic society.

It is precisely that double standard that explains why most countries do not accept country-specific resolutions. When a country has shown progress in terms of its development and is demonstrating and practising openness and constructive dialogue on that issue, it should be supported and not condemned. We believe in dialogue and cooperation and remain open and dedicated to constructive discussion and work on these issues.

We call on the sponsors of such resolutions to consider other ways of achieving human rights goals than the biased and selective use of such resolutions and other means they currently use, for the most part solely to achieve their own objectives. The search for mutually acceptable ways to develop dialogue on this issue is of the highest priority for us and must be made a similarly high priority for the sponsors.

The importance that we attach to this issue was underscored by the personal participation of Turkmenistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs in the debate on this question in the Third Committee. Turkmenistan once again reasserts that the advancement of our citizens' rights is our

Government's highest priority and requests the General Assembly's support for its efforts in that regard.

We firmly believe that this draft resolution, if adopted, would serve only to impede our efforts and would be extremely counterproductive. Turkmenistan has therefore decided to call for a motion of no action on the draft. We are grateful for the support we have received in the Third Committee and kindly request member States to support our proposal by voting in favour of the motion of no action.

The President (*spoke in French*): The representative of Turkmenistan has moved, within the terms of rule 74 of the rules of procedure, that no action be taken on draft resolution III. Rule 74 reads in part as follows:

> "During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives may speak in favour of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote."

I call on the representatives of China and Pakistan to speak in favour of the motion.

Mr. Xie Bohua (China): The Chinese delegation supports the proposal of a no-action motion raised by the Turkmenistan delegation on draft resolution III, entitled "Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan".

Mr. Hayee (Pakistan): Pakistan takes the floor to make the following statement in support of the no-action motion requested by Turkmenistan on draft resolution III, contained in document A/59/503/Add.3, entitled "Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan".

The delegation of Pakistan has consistently opposed the practice of submitting draft resolutions that are selectively critical of some developing countries. It is the belief of my delegation that such proposals transform the work of the United Nations into a politically motivated exercise and do not advance in any way the cause of human rights.

Actions at the international level ought to be measured against the consequences and the likely results they may produce. It is our conviction that adopting draft resolutions by naming and shaming some countries will not serve the objectives of the United Nations. On the contrary, it is increases the risk of generating confrontation and politicization at the international level on human rights issues by creating a gulf between the developed and the developing countries, quite opposite to the agenda of the United Nations itself.

In view of that, Pakistan will support the no-action motion against the draft resolution entitled "Situation of human rights in Turkmenistan".

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representatives of the United States and the Netherlands to speak against the motion.

Mrs. Tamlyn (United States of America): My delegation will oppose this procedural motion on the draft resolution on the situation of human rights in Turkmenistan.

One of the basic aims of the United Nations is the promotion of human rights. The draft resolution before us was adopted by the Third Committee, which has recommended it to the General Assembly. The draft resolution considered by the Committee reflected several changes introduced after discussions with the Government of Turkmenistan and did recognize some recent progress in Turkmenistan, while expressing continuing concerns about persistent actions by the Government to limit human rights.

The motion being presented in the General Assembly today is an attempt not only to silence the Assembly's consideration of the human rights situation in Turkmenistan, but also to silence consideration of a draft resolution recommended to the General Assembly by the Assembly Committee with the primary responsibility for those issues. Such a motion, therefore, also would undermine the work of the Third Committee.

It is entirely appropriate — indeed, it is our responsibility as the General Assembly — to consider this draft resolution without resorting to a procedural motion. We believe that silencing discussion of a human rights draft resolution by use of this motion has no place in the United Nations system. The United States strongly urges members of this body to vote against the no-action motion presented on the draft resolution on the situation of human rights in Turkmenistan, regardless of their voting intentions on draft resolution III contained in document A/59/503/Add.3.

Mr. Hamburger (Netherlands): I take the floor on behalf of the European Union to speak against the motion of no action proposed by Turkmenistan.

On 18 November, the Third Committee of the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution on the situation of human rights in Turkmenistan, contained in document A/C.3/59/L.53. Despite registering some improvements, the draft resolution reflected the fact that the overall picture of human rights in Turkmenistan remains one of serious concern and requires the greatest attention of our Organization. Dialogue with all interested parties and constructive and positive cooperation with the Government of Turkmenistan were our constant endeavour in drafting a draft resolution that, following approval by the Third Committee, is today to be considered by the General Assembly.

During a series of discussions with the Government of Turkmenistan, the European Union had listened carefully to its views and, on several occasions, had revised the text to make sure it reflected all positive steps taken to try to improve the situation in the country. We are accordingly confident that the draft resolution is as balanced as it could be.

The European Union therefore deeply regrets that we are now confronted in the plenary by this motion to adjourn the debate on draft resolution III after the Third Committee has already taken action on it. As members of the General Assembly, we should all be aware of the grave implications of this motion, were it to succeed.

First of all, any motion such as this runs contrary to the spirit of dialogue to which we are all attached and undermines the principles of transparency and freedom of expression that are essential to the work of the General Assembly. Secondly, it is incumbent on the General Assembly, as the only United Nations body dealing with human rights that has universal membership, to ensure that all proposals brought before it are considered on their merits. This motion to adjourn the debate seeks to prevent the General Assembly from acting upon the recommendation of the Third Committee. It would therefore prevent the General Assembly from carrying out one of its key mandates.

These are not the only reasons, however, why the European Union is so strongly opposed to this initiative. We should all be aware that a motion such as this, if successful, would seriously undercut the work done by the Third Committee. The draft resolution on Turkmenistan was adopted by the Third Committee nearly a month ago. This motion in the plenary, after a Main Committee has already acted upon the draft resolution concerned, is an entirely new procedural move that would considerably undermine the work of the Third Committee.

Finally, I would like to add that the wider implications of this initiative are, if anything, the most grave. If the General Assembly were to adopt this motion to take no action, it would amount to the Assembly consciously choosing to ignore a recommendation that had been explicitly made to it by one of its Main Committees. In this case, the Committee concerned is the one entrusted with expertise in the field of human rights. That unheard-of turn of events would undoubtedly have severe implications not only for any future work of the General Assembly in the field of human rights but also for the Assembly's very credibility in this essential area.

For all those reasons, the European Union strongly urges delegations to vote against this no-action motion, regardless of their voting intentions on draft resolution III contained in document A/59/503/Add.3.

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote the motion submitted by the representative of Turkmenistan that no action be taken on draft resolution III.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Chad, China, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Colombia, Dominica, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Namibia, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay.

The motion for no action was rejected by 76 votes to 60, with 33 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): Since the motion for no action has not been adopted, the General Assembly will next proceed to take a decision on draft resolution III.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 69 votes to 47, with 63 abstentions (resolution 59/206).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution IV is entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo". A separate vote has been requested on the third preambular paragraph, the fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution IV. As there is no objection to those requests we shall proceed accordingly.

I now put to the vote the third preambular paragraph of draft resolution IV, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The third preambular paragraph was retained by 96 votes to 2, with 66 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution IV, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The fourth preambular paragraph was retained by 98 votes to 2, with 65 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution IV, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 5 was retained by 96 votes to 2, with 68 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution IV as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution IV, as a whole, was adopted by 76 votes to 2, with 100 abstentions (resolution 59/207).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 105.

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.4)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Third Committee?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.5)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Third Committee?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 3 *(continued)*

Credentials of representatives to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Credentials Committee (A/59/602)

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has before it a report of the Credentials Committee, containing a draft resolution recommended by the Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

The draft resolution reads as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,
>
> "Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."

The General Assembly will now proceed to vote on the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee in paragraph 11 of its report. The Credentials Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I consider that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/208).

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who wishes to speak in explanation of position on the resolution just adopted. I remind delegations that explanations of vote or position are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Sadeghi (Islamic Republic of Iran): My delegation joined the consensus on the resolution just adopted. However, I would like to express the reservations of my delegation on those parts of the report contained in document A/59/602 which may be construed as recognition of Israel.

The President (*spoke in French*): We have heard the only speaker in explanation of position.

The General Assembly has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 3.

Agenda item 12 *(continued)*

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Economic and Social Council (A/59/3/Add.2)

Draft resolutions (A/59/L.47 and A/59/L.48)

The President *(spoke in French)*: Members will recall that the Assembly held a debate on this agenda item, along with agenda item 41, at its 41st plenary meeting, on 26 October 2004.

I call on the representative of Belgium to introduce draft resolutions A/59/L.47 and A/59/L.48.

Mr. Van der Pluijm (Belgium) (*spoke in French*): I have the great pleasure today to introduce draft resolutions A/59/L.47 and A/59/L.48, which were the subject of a lengthy process of consultations that began in May, first in the Economic and Social Council and subsequently in the General Assembly.

As its title indicates, draft resolution A/59/L.47 defines the parameters for a new, smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries. The draft resolution describes that process from the first recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy through a country's graduation from the list. It also invites the countries concerned and their development partners to take a series of steps as the country prepares to graduate from the list.

Draft resolution A/59/L.48 takes note of the recommendation of the Committee for the Development Policy to remove Cape Verde and Maldives from the list of least developed countries.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the delegations that contributed to these draft resolutions, especially those that contributed to, and became sponsors of, draft resolution A/59/L.47.

My delegation would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Cape Verde and Maldives on the progress they have made. We would like to underscore that we will honour the commitments entered into through draft resolution A/59/L.48 to assist those two countries to avoid any erosion of that progress.

In conclusion, allow me to make four small technical corrections to the English version of draft resolution A/59/L.47.

(*spoke in English*)

In paragraph 3 (b), the text ", as described in paragraph 3 (a)," should be inserted following the words "The identified country".

In paragraph 4, a comma should be inserted following the words "the list of least developed countries".

Paragraph 6 should read as follows:

> "*Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to assist countries graduating from the list of least developed countries by providing, if requested, support of the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the United Nations country team to the consultative mechanism".

And, lastly, in paragraph 12 the words "to carry out the monitoring of" should be replaced by the words "to monitor".

(*spoke in French*)

With those corrections, I would like to commend the two draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly by consensus.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now consider draft resolutions A/59/L.47, as orally corrected, and A/59/L.48.

The Assembly will first take up draft resolution A/59/L.47, entitled "Smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries", as orally corrected.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.47, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/59/L.47, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/209).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take up draft resolution A/59/L.48, entitled "Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixth session".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.48?

Draft resolution A/59/L.48 was adopted (resolution 59/210).

Mr. Latheef (Maldives): The resolution just adopted by this Assembly to graduate my country from the list of least developed countries has significant implications. Nevertheless, the resolution constitutes a milestone in the country's development. We strongly believe that our achievements truly are a testimony to political stability, good governance, prudent policies and hard work by the Government, the private sector and the people of the Maldives. With few or no natural resources and a very fragile economic base, the people of the Maldives have worked hard over the past two decades to achieve this level of development.

With graduation from the category of least developed countries, we are determined to redouble our efforts towards achieving our goal of reaching the level of a middle-income developing country by the year 2020, as promulgated in our Vision 2020 document. But I stress that that will not be possible without the cooperation and support of our development partners and friends. Graduation will not eliminate the inherent vulnerabilities facing our country. The structural handicaps of my country stemming from its geo-physical characteristics will continue to pose formidable challenges that we cannot address on our own. The continued assistance and cooperation of the international community will therefore always be vital for us in our development process, even after graduation.

At this point, allow me bring to the attention of the members of the Assembly a book entitled *The Maldives — A Nation in Peril*, copies of which I have made available at the side tables outside the General Assembly Hall. The book compiles a series of statements made by the President of the Republic of Maldives, His Excellency Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, on the structural handicaps and the environmental vulnerabilities and threats facing our country. I hope that members will find the book useful in understanding the seriousness of our concerns.

According to the provisions of the two resolutions we have just adopted, the three-year smooth transition period for the Maldives will begin today. Within those three years we hope to actively engage with our development partners to determine the level of support and concessions we will still require after the three-year period has elapsed, and to work out an appropriate plan to smoothly phase out benefits and concessions without any disruption to our development plans and programmes. We consider a smooth transition to be key to the success of graduation. We will rely on the smooth transition strategy to generate the kind of momentum that is expected to kick-start the dynamic process of development envisaged by the Committee for Development Policy following graduation.

My country pledges to work closely with its development partners in the implementation of the strategy. Even at present, with the assistance of our development partners, we are making every effort to build the human and institutional capacity necessary to integrate ourselves into the world economy and to address our development challenges. Plans are also being made to diversify our economy and to restructure the fisheries industry to foster greater private investment and to transform it into an engine of development. A major population consolidation project for integration of the population through resettlement is under way, and an ambitious agenda for reforming the political system is being implemented in order to further enhance the participation of civil society and the private sector in national development.

Those are undertakings that require greater understanding, assistance and cooperation from our development partners to make our transition smooth and effective. We remain hopeful that our development partners, as well as the United Nations system, will stand beside us, as before, to ensure the sustainable development of the Maldives.

Before I conclude, allow me to express our sincere gratitude to the President, the other members of the Bureau and the members of the Economic and Social Council for the understanding they exhibited in the deliberations on the smooth transition strategy and for the cooperation they extended to my country in the determination of the strategy. We also thank the coordinator, Mr. Edouard Aho-Glele, all members of the group of least developed countries and the members of the Group of 77 for the unqualified support they extended to the Maldives in the deliberations on this issue of prime importance to my country. Finally, allow me also to express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm of Belgium, for the exemplary manner in which he facilitated negotiations on this very delicate issue.

Mrs. Lima da Veiga (Cape Verde): As the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly draws to an end, I would like, at the outset, to congratulate you, Mr. President, on the able leadership with which you have been conducting the work of this important organ of our Organization. I also wish to reaffirm the support of the Cape Verde delegation for the implementation of your road map for the 2005 high-level events.

The Assembly has just adopted two important resolutions: resolution 59/209, on the smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries, and resolution 59/210, on the graduation of Cape Verde and Maldives. This a turning point in the complex process of negotiation that was launched with the presentation to the Economic and Social Council of the first reports of the Committee for Development Policy.

From dissenting stances on the very concept of graduation and on its criteria, positions have evolved into a broad consensus on a number of aspects, thanks to the spirit of understanding and compromise that the parties have shown through their respective facilitators. Because they were convinced that graduation is a great challenge for both the graduating countries and the international community, a number of participants, including my delegation, stressed that ensuring the credibility of the least developed country denomination should not be a determining factor in analysing the issue. They also stressed the need to review graduation criteria against the background of the enormous vulnerabilities and structural handicaps faced by those countries, instead of by using cold figures and data, which are often far from reflecting the realities on the ground.

The island paradox has also been referred to in that context. In fact, although small island developing States generally appear to be among the relatively more prosperous developing countries, they are among the most economically vulnerable and externally dependent. They are therefore the least prepared to withstand the shock of immediate graduation because of their high dependency on foreign trade, their limited diversification and their incapacity for economies of scale.

From our own experience as a small island developing State facing economic, environmental and social vulnerabilities, we know the extent of that paradox. In fact, although Cape Verde has made important progress in its almost three decades of independence with the assistance of our development partners, it is still very vulnerable economically, and its poverty rate is relatively high. Its high dependence on development aid and remittances from emigrants and its fragile environment, aggravated by persistent drought, pose serious constraints to any sustainable development strategy.

One of the most relevant agreements reached during the discussions was that, before a country's graduation, conditions should be created to ensure that in the long run, graduation is a genuine step forward and not a setback in the development process. The report of the Secretary-General on formulating a smooth transition for countries graduating from least developed countries status (E/2004/94) has been instrumental in offering guidance to move forward on this issue. Graduation can indeed pave the way for further development if the graduating country is effectively supported in its efforts to adapt policies to the new context and to review strategies for sustainable development. Otherwise, it could disrupt the progress made.

The Cape Verdean Government is convinced that the guidelines for the smooth transition period contained in the resolution we have just adopted are a fair basis for relaunching the development process in the graduating countries.

In line with that position, and having assumed the challenge of graduation, the Government of Cape Verde has promoted a set of measures aimed at launching institutional, economic and social structural reforms to readjust to the new reality. It looks forward to working closely with its development partners and the United Nation system in the preparation of its transition strategy. For that policy to succeed, it is crucial that the resolution on smooth transition be fully respected and that its responsibilities be effectively shared by all stakeholders. In that context, I would like to launch a strong appeal to our development partners for the effective implementation of all provisions of the resolution and for delivery on the commitments made.

While doing so, I wish to emphasize the need for stronger involvement by the international community in the creation of an enabling environment for the effective implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 and of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. In that context, and in conclusion, I hope that the outcome of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action, to be held in Mauritius in January 2005, will decisively contribute to a higher degree of achievements in the implementation of the Programme.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 12.

Agenda item 39 (*continued*)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Draft resolution (A/59/L.51)

Amendments (A/59/L.52)

(a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Draft resolution (A/59/L.26/Rev.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the Assembly held the debate on agenda item 39 and its sub-items (a) and (c) at its 51st and 52nd meetings, held on 11 November 2004.

I give the floor to the representative of Qatar to introduce, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1.

Mr Al-Mahmoud (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): I have the honour, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1, entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development".

Natural disasters bring various problems in their wake and have particularly adverse impacts, with long-lasting consequences for the affected populations, especially in developing countries. Natural disasters also affect the social and economic development of countries in which they occur. While it may not be possible completely to eliminate the suffering caused by natural disasters, efforts towards relief and development assistance could help in the recovery and long-term rehabilitation of those affected by such disasters.

The Group of 77 and China have once again sought to reiterate the importance of strengthening international cooperation — especially through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms — in the provision of humanitarian assistance during all phases of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources.

Like similar texts in the past, draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1 reaffirms the principles of 46/182 of 19 December 1991, whose annex contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system. The draft resolution emphasizes the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases. The draft resolution is also mindful of the effects that shortfalls in resources can have on the preparedness for and response to natural disasters.

The draft resolution also emphasizes the importance of enhanced international cooperation to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities and stresses the need to promote the access to and transfer of technology and knowledge related to early warning systems and to mitigation programmes to developing countries affected by natural disasters. The draft resolution encourages the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies and the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images.

As was the case with last year's text, more than 150 countries, including the members of the Group of 77 and China, have sponsored this important draft resolution. We are pleased to announce that, in addition to the countries listed in the document, the following countries have joined the list of sponsors:

(*spoke in English*)

Andorra, Austria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The following corrections should be made to document A/59/L.26/Rev.1 to bring it into conformity with the language agreed during negotiations. In the sixteenth preambular paragraph, the words "achievement of" should be inserted before the words "internationally agreed development goals". In the seventeenth preambular paragraph, a comma should be inserted after the word "Secretariat". Finally, in operative paragraph 2, the word "high" should be inserted before the word "number".

The President (*spoke in French*): I give the floor to the representative of the Netherlands to introduce, on behalf of the European Union, draft resolution A/59/L.51.

Mr. Nieuwenhuis (Netherlands): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

I should like to announce that, since the publication of draft resolution A/59/L.51, the following countries have become sponsors: Andorra, Brazil, Estonia, Malawi, New Zealand, Serbia and Montenegro and Ukraine.

The delivery of humanitarian assistance is a core function of the United Nations system. Humanitarian personnel provide relief to the most vulnerable and needy in natural disasters and complex emergencies around the world. They implement the humanitarian policies set in the United Nations. They operate under difficult circumstances, often at great personal risk.

The conditions under which they operate have become more dangerous in recent years. Humanitarian personnel, both local and international, are increasingly confronted with violence, including sexual violence, abductions, robbery and intimidation. The safety and security of humanitarian personnel must be of paramount concern to us all: Member States, in particular host countries; the United Nations Secretariat, agencies, funds and programmes; and other humanitarian actors.

The draft resolution on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, as contained in document A/59/L.51, addresses a number of issues at the core of the safety and security of those providing humanitarian assistance. It calls for full respect for international law, in particular the Geneva Conventions, and recognizes the importance of the various relevant conventions, such as the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 1994.

The draft resolution recognizes the role of the host Government to protect humanitarian workers and to facilitate their work, for instance by ensuring access and allowing the use of telecommunications equipment. It recognizes the need for a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations, both at Headquarters and at the field level, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures to that end.

Without prejudice to the ongoing debate in the Fifth Committee, we consider it of the utmost importance that a comprehensive agreement on a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations be reached.

The informal consultations on the draft resolution have been constructive and conducted in a positive manner, with broad participation. The draft resolution met with consensus, except for two paragraphs referring to the International Criminal Court (ICC), on which amendments have been introduced (A/59/L.52). We strongly feel that the references to the ICC are relevant to this draft resolution. The Court can play an important role in bringing to justice those responsible for attacks against humanitarian personnel and help end impunity for such acts.

We express our gratitude to all humanitarian personnel operating worldwide and hope that this draft resolution contributes to the success of their work to provide assistance to those most vulnerable and in need.

The President (*spoke in French*): I now give the floor to the representative of the United States of America to introduce the amendments contained in document A/59/L.52.

Mrs. Tamlyn (United States of America): I have asked for the floor to introduce the United States amendments proposed in document A/59/L.52.

The United States has proposed the replacement of two paragraphs in draft resolution A/59/L.51 with language to enhance the text and to make it more widely acceptable. We feel that this important draft resolution should have strong support by all Member States.

The President (*spoke in French*): We shall now proceed to consider draft resolutions A/59/L.26/Rev.1, as orally corrected, and A/59/L.51 and the amendments thereto contained in document A/59/L.52.

The General Assembly will first take a decision on the proposals under agenda item 39. Thereafter, the Assembly will take a decision on the proposal under sub-item (a) of agenda item 39.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.51 and on the amendments thereto contained in document A/59/L.52.

In accordance with rule 90 of the rules of procedure, the amendments are voted on first. The Assembly will therefore first take a decision on the amendments circulated in document A/59/L.52.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

United States of America.

Against:

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Abstaining:

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The amendments to draft resolution A/59/L.51, contained in document A/59/L.52, were rejected by 89 votes to 1, with 27 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.51, entitled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel". Before the Assembly takes a decision on the draft resolution, I wish to announce that since the submission of draft resolution A/59/L.51, the following delegation has become a sponsor: Mali.

It is my understanding that there are requests not to put draft resolution A/59/L.51 to a vote. May I take it therefore that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt A/59/L.51?

Draft resolution A/59/L.51 was adopted (resolution 59/211).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1, entitled: "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development", as orally corrected. Before the Assembly takes a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1, I wish to announce that since the draft resolution was introduced, the following country has become a sponsor: Finland.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/59/L.26/Rev.1, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/212).

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representative of the United States, who wishes to speak in explanation of position on the resolutions just adopted.

Mrs. Tamlyn (United States of America): The United States strongly supports the broad principles enunciated in resolution 59/211, especially the need to protect humanitarian workers and peacekeepers from violence directed against them. As aid workers worldwide must work in increasingly difficult and dangerous environments, those principles remain fundamental. Based on our support for the principles of safety and security for all humanitarian personnel, and reflecting the strong United States role in continuing to provide humanitarian assistance, the United States has joined consensus on this resolution.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 39?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 39.

Agenda item 56 (*continued*)

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

(a) Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

Draft resolution (A/59/L.54)

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the Assembly held its debate on agenda item 56 and its sub-items (a) to (t) at its 38th to 40th plenary meetings, on 21 and 22 October 2004.

I now give the floor to the representative of Nigeria to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.54.

Mr. Wali (Nigeria): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/59/L.54, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union". I should like to announce that since the publication of the draft resolution, the following countries have become sponsors: China, Germany, Hungary, Malaysia, Slovakia, Slovenia and the United Kingdom.

It will be recalled that in the General Assembly debate on this item last October, Member States called for continued and greater cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union. That was based on an appreciation of the impact of such cooperation on regional peace, security and development. It was based also on the fact that regional strategies have

proved invaluable in the global efforts of the United Nations and the international community to attain a world that is secure and at peace with itself.

The challenges facing African countries and the African Union in achieving regional peace, security and development remain daunting. Considerable efforts have been deployed to tackle the problems of poverty, disease and the resolution of armed conflicts. The attainment of those goals requires concerted efforts of the international community to remove the main obstacles in that regard, particularly the resolution of the debt overhang and the deployment of resources. For us in the continent, the challenges of ensuring sustainable development cannot be overemphasized. The present draft resolution is intended to strengthen the efforts of the African Union through cooperation with the United Nations and the international community in that regard. In addition, the draft resolution takes cognizance of the expanded mandate and the new organs of the African Union since the adoption of the previous resolution on the same subject, resolution 57/48.

On behalf of African Member States, I wish to convey our appreciation for the wide participation by the United Nations membership in negotiating this draft resolution. That was a further demonstration of support for the efforts of the African Union to tackle the challenges facing the continent.

Finally, on behalf of the sponsors of draft resolution A/59/L.54, on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, I call on the General Assembly to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

The President (*spoke in French*): We shall now proceed to consider draft resolution A/59/L.54, entitled: "Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union".

Before the Assembly takes a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.54, I wish to announce that since the draft was introduced, the following countries have become sponsors: Belgium, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, France, the Gambia, Greece, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius and Uganda.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.54?

Draft resolution A/59/L.54 was adopted (resolution 59/213).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 56 (a)?

It was so decided.

Further postponement of date of recess

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that, at its 71st plenary meeting, on 10 December 2004, the General Assembly decided that the fifty-ninth session would recess on Monday, 20 December 2004.

However, in view of the work that remains to be done for this part of the session, I would like to propose to the Assembly that it postpone the date of recess of the current session to Thursday, 23 December 2004.

In the absence of objection, may I take it that the Assembly agrees to that proposal?

It was so decided.

The meeting was adjourned at 6.35 p.m.

United Nations A/59/PV.75

General Assembly
Fifty-ninth session

Official Records

75th plenary meeting
Wednesday, 22 December 2004, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Ping .... (Gabon)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Reports of the Second Committee

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will consider the reports of the Second Committee on agenda items 39 (b), 44, 83 and its sub-items (a) to (d), 84, 85 and its sub-items (a) to (h), 86, 87 and its sub-items (a) to (e), 88 and its sub-items (a) and (b), 89 and its sub-items (a) to (c), 90, 91, 92 and its sub-items (a) and (b), and 109.

I request the Rapporteur of the Second Committee, Mr. Azanaw Tadesse Abreha of Ethiopia, to introduce the reports of the Second Committee in one intervention.

Mr. Abreha (Ethiopia), Rapporteur of the Second Committee: I have the honour to present for consideration the following reports of the Second Committee on the agenda items allocated to it by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

Concerning agenda item 39 (b), "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 27 of document A/59/479, the adoption of six draft resolutions.

In connection with draft resolution II, entitled "Humanitarian and special economic assistance to Serbia and Montenegro", the following corrections should be made. In the third line of operative paragraph 10, the words "which should emphasize" should be corrected to read "emphasizing". In the fifth line of operative paragraph 11, the words "the provision of" should be deleted.

With respect to agenda item 44, entitled "Information and communication technologies for development", the Second Committee recommends in paragraph 12 of document A/59/480, the adoption of one draft resolution and, in paragraph 13, the adoption of two draft decisions.

Under sub-item (a) of agenda item 83, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 9 of document A/59/481/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (b) of agenda 83, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: international financial system and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/59/481/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (c) agenda item 83, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt crisis and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/481/Add.3, the adoption of one draft resolution.

In connection with the draft resolution, the following corrections should be made. In the eighth line of operative paragraph 4, the word "including" should be inserted before the words "inter alia".

This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

Under sub-item (d) of agenda item 83, entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 11 of document A/59/481/Add.4, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 84, entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 13 of document A/59/482, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Concerning agenda item 85, entitled "Sustainable development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 11 of document A/59/483, the adoption of one draft resolution.

In connection with the text of the draft resolution, the following corrections should be made. In the first line of operative paragraph 5, the words "for an" should be corrected to read "of the". In the fifth line of operative paragraph 6, the semi-colon after the words "twenty-third session" should be replaced by the word "and". In the sixth line of the same operative paragraph, the phrase "that have not yet done so", should be set apart by commas. In the tenth line of the same operative paragraph, the semi-colon after the word "Secretary-General" should be deleted.

Under sub-item (a) of agenda item 85, entitled "Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 13 of document A/59/483/Add.1, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

I would like to point out the following corrections to the body of the report. All of the sponsors listed in paragraph 4 of the report should be listed under paragraph 9, as they were additional sponsors of the draft resolution entitled "Activities undertaken during the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources".

Under sub-item (b) of agenda item 85, entitled "Sustainable development: Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 16 of document A/59/483/Add.2, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

I would like to point out that a draft decision was inadvertently omitted from the report under this sub-item. The decision is entitled "Accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the International Meeting in Mauritius" and the text reads as follows:

> "The General Assembly decides to approve the participation of non-governmental organizations contained in document A/59/409 and Corr.1 as observers in the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, to be held in Mauritius in January 2005, in accordance with rule 65 of the draft provisional rules of procedure of the International Meeting."

Under sub-item (c) of agenda item 85, entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 16 of A/59/483/Add.3, the adoption of three draft resolutions. Here, I would like to call attention to a correction to draft resolution III, entitled "Natural disasters and vulnerability". In the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "such extreme weather events as" should be replaced with the words "extreme weather events such as".

Under sub-item (d) of agenda item 85, entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/483/Add.4, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (e) of agenda item 85, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/59/483/Add.5, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (f) of agenda item 85, entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/59/483/Add.6, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (g) of agenda item 85, entitled "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development", the Second Committee recommends, in

paragraph 6 of document A/59/483/Add.7, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (h) of agenda item 85, entitled "Rendering assistance to the poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 9 of document A/59/483/Add.8, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 86, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 11 of document A/59/484, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Agenda item 87 is entitled "Globalization and interdependence". Under sub-item (a), entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/485/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (b) of agenda item 87, entitled "International migration and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/485/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (c) of agenda item 87, entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/59/485/Add.3, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (d) of agenda item 87, entitled "Culture and development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 3 of document A/59/485/Add.4, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item (e) of agenda item 87, entitled "Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/59/485/Add.5, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Agenda item 88 is entitled "Groups of countries in special situations". Under sub-item (a), entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/486/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (b) of agenda item 88, entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 9 of document A/59/486/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Agenda item 89 is entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues". Under sub-item (a), entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 15 of document A/59/487/Add.1, the adoption of two draft resolutions. Here, I would like to call attention to a correction to draft resolution I, entitled "Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty". In the ninth preambular paragraph, a comma should be inserted after the words "the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor".

Under sub-item (b) of agenda item 89, entitled "Women in development", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/487/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under sub-item (c) of agenda item 89, entitled "Industrial development cooperation", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 6 of document A/59/487/Add.3, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Agenda item 90 is entitled "Operational activities for development". Under sub-item (a), entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system", and sub-item (b), entitled "Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraphs 9 and 10 of document A/59/488/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution and of one draft decision, respectively. Here, I would like to call attention to the draft decision. The draft decision should bear the following title: "Document considered under agenda item 90".

With respect to agenda item 91, entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 11 of document A/59/489, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Agenda item 92 is entitled "Training and research". Under sub-item (a), entitled "United Nations Institute for Training and Research", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 7 of document A/59/490/Add.1, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under agenda item 92 (b), entitled "United Nations University", the Second Committee recommends, in paragraph 8 of document A/59/490/Add.2, the adoption of one draft resolution.

On the recommendation of the General Committee of the General Assembly, the Second Committee was requested to discuss item 109, entitled "Programme planning", in conjunction with item 83 (a), "International trade and development", specifically, Programme 10 of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2007, contained in document A/59/6(Prog.10)/Rev.1. The Second Committee's recommendations in this regard are contained in document A/59/610.

Delegations wishing to inquire about technical corrections to the texts of the draft resolutions adopted by the Second Committee should communicate their queries to the Second Committee secretariat prior to their final issuance as resolutions of the General Assembly.

Before I conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to thank very sincerely our Chairman, Mr. Marco Balarezo of Peru, and the Vice-Chairpersons, Mr. Antonio Bernardini of Italy, Mrs. Ewa Anzorge of Poland and Mr. Maj[illegible]amadan of Lebanon, for their extraordinary collaboration and partnership during the very successful Second Committee session. Finally, I would also like to thank the Secretariat for its outstanding assistance to me and to all the members of the Bureau.

The President (*spoke in French*): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Second Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Second Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that, under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Second Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Second Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. This means that where separate votes or recorded votes were taken, we will do the same. I should also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Second Committee.

Agenda item 39 (*continued*)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/479)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it six draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 27 of its report.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions I to VI, one by one. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to speak in explanation of vote or position.

Draft resolution I, entitled "Assistance to Mozambique", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/214).

The President (*spoke in French*) Draft resolution II, entitled "Humanitarian and special economic assistance to Serbia and Montenegro", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution II, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/215).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Second Committee adopted draft resolution III, entitled "International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 59/216).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution IV, entitled "Humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation for Ethiopia", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 59/217).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Second Committee adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 59/218).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution VI, entitled "Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution VI was adopted (resolution 59/219).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 39 and of agenda item 39 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 44

Information and communication technologies for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/480)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 12 of its report and two draft decisions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 13 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution and on draft decisions I and II.

The draft resolution, entitled "World Summit on the Information Society", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/220).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft decision I is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on information and communication technologies for development". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision I, recommended by the Second Committee?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft decision II is entitled "Report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision II, recommended by the Second Committee?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 44?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 83

Macroeconomic policy questions

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/481)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee on this item?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 83.

(a) International trade and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/481/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "International trade and development".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Palau, United States of America

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea

The draft resolution was adopted by 166 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions (resolution 59/221).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 83?

It was so decided.

(b) International financial system and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/481/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/222).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 83?

It was so decided.

(c) External debt crisis and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/481/Add.3)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, as orally corrected. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/223).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 83?

It was so decided.

(d) Commodities

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/48/Add.4)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Commodities". A separate recorded vote has been requested on operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution. As there is no objection to that request, I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, on which a separate vote has been requested.

I call on the representative of Benin, who has asked to speak in explanation of vote before the voting.

Mr. Aho-Glele (Benin) (*spoke in French*): On behalf of the least developed countries, we have requested the floor in explanation of vote in order to express our surprise, our deep concern and our unanimous disappointment at the request made by one delegation to request a separate vote on operative paragraph 12 of this draft resolution on commodities.

We would like to emphasize that that provision is but an expression, *mutatis mutandis*, of the commitment entered into by the international community, in particular the development partners of the least developed countries, at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels in 2001. Let me recall that commitment:

> "We aim at improving preferential market access for [least developed countries] by working towards the objective of duty-free and quota-free market access for all [least developed countries'] products in the markets of developed countries". (*A/CONF.191/12, para. 6*)

While we wish to renew our sincere gratitude to all those partners who have and will continue working towards improving preferential access by least developed countries to their markets, we have to point out that the least developed countries, individually or collectively, constitute no threat to the competitiveness of products of those countries due to their structural weakness in responding to market demands. Furthermore, least developed countries hardly begin to develop their productive capacities when they are deemed able to graduate from the group of least developed countries, thus losing the benefits derived from preferential market access.

In such circumstances, any attempt to call into question a commitment that has been internationally and unanimously undertaken in favour of the least developed countries or to seek unilaterally to suppress it can only fuel and sustain, on the one hand, confusion and inconsistency in such international initiatives, and, on the other hand, vague attempts to subjugate the least developed countries, thus resulting in exploitation of the dire poverty of the most vulnerable segment of the international community.

In addition, improved access for least developed countries to the markets of developed countries is part of a series of specific measures and commitments taken under the Brussels Programme of Action, which has been inadequately implemented since its adoption in 2001 — a fact that is reflected in the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

We believe that the request for a separate vote on operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution is an error of judgement. That is why, while there is still time, we wish to make an appeal through you, Mr. President, to the delegation that made that request to withdraw it. If the vote is taken, we wish to ask the international community, in particular the friends of the least developed countries, which continue to work tirelessly to improve the fate of humanity, especially the most vulnerable sectors, to reaffirm their solidarity and commitment to the least developed countries, based on the international community's commitment to combat extreme poverty and human misery.

The President (*spoke in French*): I now put to the vote operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of its report (A/59/481/Add.4), on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Palau, United States of America

Abstaining:

Canada, Israel

Operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution was retained by 170 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution as a whole. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution as a whole without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution, as a whole, was adopted (resolution 59/224).

The President (*spoke in French*): I give the floor to the representative of Canada in explanation of vote on the decisions just taken.

Mr. Rock (Canada): On this draft resolution, in the Second Committee and today, Canada abstained in the vote on operative paragraph 12. We did not make an explanation of vote in the Second Committee; in retrospect, it would appear that it would have been wise to do so. Since the vote, a number of delegations have approached us to express their concern over our vote, believing that it represented a change of policy on the part of Canada with respect to market access for products originating from least developed countries. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Canada's market access initiative for least developed countries, which took effect on 1 January 2003, extends duty-free and quota-free access to Canada's imports from least developed countries with the exception of certain over-quota supply-managed agricultural products, a category which is limited to dairy and poultry products and eggs. It is important to note that this initiative is one of the most far-reaching preference schemes for least developed countries of any developed country, partly because of its realistic and liberal rules of origin, which allow for accumulation from all developing countries.

As a final point, that initiative has had a notable effect on our trade with least developed countries. In 2003, our total imports from least developed countries rose by 77 per cent over their 2002 levels. That includes an increase of 4,307 per cent in imports under the least-developed-countries preferences. That clearly shows the degree to which least developed countries have made use of this Canadian initiative.

We trust that this explanation of vote has clarified Canada's position on this issue.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 83 and of agenda item 83 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 84

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/482)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 13 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/225).

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of agenda item 84.

Agenda item 85

Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, as orally corrected. The draft resolution, entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same.

The draft resolution, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/226).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 85.

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 13 of its report.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II. Draft resolution I, entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt draft resolution I?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/227).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Activities undertaken during the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, preparations for the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/228).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

(b) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 16 of its report and one draft decision, as noted by the Rapporteur of the Second Committee.

We will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/229).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II is entitled "Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development".

A separate vote has been requested on the fourteenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution II. As there is no objection to that request, I shall now put to the vote the fourteenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution II.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

United States of America

Abstaining:

Japan

The fourteenth preambular paragraph of draft resolution II was retained by 167 votes to 1, with 1 abstention

[Subsequently, the delegation of Saudi Arabia informed the Secretariat that it had not intended to participate.]

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution II as a whole.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II as a whole without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise.

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/230).

The President (*spoke in French*): The draft decision is entitled "Accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the International Meeting in Mauritius".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representative of Turkey to speak in explanation of decision on the resolution just adopted.

Ms. Say (Turkey): Turkey joined the consensus on draft resolution 59/230, as it addresses important issues for the Caribbean Sea area. Turkey, however, disassociates itself from the references made in the resolution to the international instruments to which it is not party. Those references, therefore, should not be interpreted as indicating a change in the legal position of Turkey with regard to the said instruments. Turkey will continue to be bound by the relevant rules of international law.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 85.

(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.3)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it three draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 16 of its report. We will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions.

The Second Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "International strategy for disaster reduction". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/231).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Second Committee adopted draft resolution II, entitled "International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/232).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Second Committee adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Natural disasters and vulnerability". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/233).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 85?

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.4)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/234).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.5)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We shall now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/235).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

(f) Convention on Biological Diversity

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.6)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/236).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (f) of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

(g) United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.7)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/237).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (g) of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

(h) Rendering assistance to the poor mountain countries to overcome obstacles in socio-economic and ecological areas

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/483/Add.8)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/238).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (h) of agenda item 85?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 86

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/484)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (United Nations-Habitat)". The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/239).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 86?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 87

Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/485)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee on this item?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 87.

(a) Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/485/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence". The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/240).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(b) International migration and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/485/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/241).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(c) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/485/Add.3)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/242).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(d) Culture and development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/485/Add.4)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 3 of its report.

We will now take action on the draft decision, entitled "Document relating to culture and development".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 87?

It was so decided.

(e) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/485/Add.5)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/243).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 87 and agenda item 87 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 88

Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/486)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 88.

Agenda item 88 (*continued*)

Groups of countries in special situations

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/486/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/244).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 88?

It was so decided.

(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/486/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation".

The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/245).

The President (*spoke in French*): I call on the representative of Chile to speak in explanation of position on the resolution just adopted.

Mr. Rojas (Chile) (*spoke in Spanish*): The delegation of Chile wishes to refer to paragraph 5 of document A/59/486/Add.2, which states "At the same meeting [of the Second Committee], the representative of Chile made a statement". The statement referred to our position in agreement with the consensus and the support voiced in favour of the resolution. However, the substantive contents and underlying concepts of that statement remain valid in this plenary meeting.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 88 and agenda item 88 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 89

Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/487)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 89.

(a) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/487/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 15 of its report.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II. Draft resolution I, entitled "Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt draft resolution I, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution I, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/246).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II, entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/247).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 89?

It was so decided.

(b) Women in development

Report of the Second Committee (A/58/487/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution, entitled "World Survey on the role of women in development". The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/248).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 89?

It was so decided.

(c) Industrial development cooperation

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/487/Add.3)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 6 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/249).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 89 and of agenda item 89 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 90

Operational activities for development

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/488 and A/59/488/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee contained in document A/59/488?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): We turn now to the report of the Second Committee contained in document A/59/488/Add.1. The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 9 of its report and a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 10 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution and on the draft decision. The draft resolution, entitled "Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", was adopted by the Second Committee. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/250).

The President (*spoke in French*): We now turn to the draft decision, entitled "Document considered under agenda item 90". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Second Committee?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): May it take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 90?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 91

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/489)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 11 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Australia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Nauru, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

The draft resolution was adopted by 156 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions (resolution 59/251).

The President (*spoke in French*): I give the floor to the representative of Israel, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote on the resolution just adopted.

Mr. Sermoneta (Israel): Israel is dismayed that the substantive debate in the Second Committee has yet again devolved into a forum for passing unbalanced resolutions motivated by politicized interests which are one-sided, misleading and unproductive. It is especially disappointing this year because it appears that today the Middle East is presented with a window of opportunity.

It is only through cooperation on the ground that we can make the best use of our region's natural resources for all inhabitants of the Middle East, not through acrimony here at the United Nations or through baseless and unconstructive allegations levelled in our deliberations.

The connection between this resolution and the issues addressed by the Second Committee is extremely tenuous. The resolution attempts to shift our focus away from our actual priorities. Its adoption only invites further politicization and destruction and is not in line with the spirit of reform and revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

Further, this resolution contributes nothing towards a real peace agreement between Israelis and Palestinians. It deals with issues specifically reserved for direct bilateral negotiations and in doing so undermines the hopes for such negotiations. It is for those reasons that we voted against this resolution.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 91?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 92

Training and research

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/490)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee on this item?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 92.

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/490/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/252).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 92?

It was so decided.

(b) United Nations University

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/490/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution. The Second Committee adopted the draft resolution. May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/253).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 92, and of agenda item 92 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 109

Programme planning

Report of the Second Committee (A/59/610)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Second Committee on this item?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 109.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Second Committee.

The meeting rose at noon.

United Nations

A/59/PV.76

General Assembly

Fifty-ninth session

Official Records

76th plenary meeting

Thursday, 23 December 2004, 4 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Ping .... (Gabon)

The meeting was called to order at 5.10 p.m.

Agenda item 38 (*continued*)

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

(a) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

Draft resolution (A/59/L.33/Rev.1)

(b) Causes of conflict and the promotion of peace and sustainable development in Africa

Draft resolution (A/59/L.50/Rev.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the General Assembly held its debate on agenda item 38 and sub-items (a) and (b), jointly with agenda item 46, at the 33rd to 36th plenary meetings, held on 18 and 19 October 2004.

I call on the representative of the Secretariat.

Ms. Kelley: I have been asked to make some corrections to the English text of draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1, which have been necessitated due to editing errors.

In the third preambular paragraph, the word "and" should replace the second appearance of the words "bearing in mind".

In paragraph 4, the words "process of its" should be deleted, and the words "of NEPAD" should be added to the end of the paragraph.

In paragraph 6, the word "deepen" should replace "strengthen".

In paragraph 13, "and" should be added before the phrase "in this regard", and the word "the" preceding the word "progress" should be deleted.

In paragraph 14, a comma should be inserted after "including", followed by the words "inter alia" and a comma.

In paragraph 27, the words "the entities of" should be deleted.

In paragraph 29, the phrase "to further strengthen" should read "to strengthen further".

Finally, in operative paragraph 35, the word "including" after "New Partnership" should be replaced by the words "such as".

The President (*spoke in French*): I now call on the representative of Qatar to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1, as orally corrected, and draft resolution A/59/L.50/Rev.1.

Mr. Al-Mahmoud (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I have the honour to introduce to the General Assembly draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", as orally corrected. The draft

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This record contains the text of speeches delivered in English and of the interpretation of speeches delivered in the other languages. Corrections should be submitted to the original languages only. They should be incorporated in a copy of the record and sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned to the Chief of the Verbatim Reporting Service, room C-154A. Corrections will be issued after the end of the session in a consolidated corrigendum.

resolution was arrived at through a consensus process and has the sponsorship of numerous countries.

Africa faces serious challenges. Meeting them requires collective action by both African countries and the international community. The adoption of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) by the African Union in 2001 as an initiative owned and led by the continent and the General Assembly's subsequent endorsement of it as the framework for international support to Africa illustrate the resolve that exists to address the daunting challenges facing Africa. NEPAD offers great hope, which — if matched with the requisite political will and commitment — will enable Africa to claim the twenty-first century as its own.

The main purpose of draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1 is to keep the spotlight on the efforts of African countries and to underscore the ongoing need for international support to complement those endeavours. In the past year, African countries have taken concrete steps to implement NEPAD through the development of sectoral policy frameworks, the design of specific projects and the establishment of expenditure targets in NEPAD priority areas. Those efforts require enabling national and international environments conducive to growth and development, with the participation of numerous stakeholders. Furthermore, it is important to keep Africa's particular circumstances in mind as the countdown to the 2005 major event begins. Accordingly, the draft resolution highlights areas of progress and need.

I take this opportunity to extend my thanks to all delegations for their cooperation and support during the informal consultations on the draft resolution. I should like in particular to thank Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk of Morocco for his tireless efforts as facilitator of the draft resolution. Without his support, it would have been impossible to reach consensus on the draft resolution. In that regard, I should like to inform delegations — other than those of the Group of 77 and China — that may still wish to sponsor the draft resolution that they can do so from the floor before its adoption.

On behalf of the Group of 77 and China and the other sponsors, I am pleased to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1, as orally corrected, for adoption as a consensus text. Finally, I wish to announce that Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine and the United States have joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I wish also to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.50/Rev.1, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa".

The draft resolution was formulated in a consensus process. It takes note of the significant progress made in the prevention, mediation and resolution of conflicts, while recognizing that much remains to be done, especially with regard to emerging trends that could undermine the gains achieved in the consolidation of peace and sustainable development. The draft resolution welcomes the establishment by the African Union of its Peace and Security Council and looks forward to the establishment of other elements. It also welcomes the contributions of the United Nations system, development partners and other relevant stakeholders in conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa.

The consensus achieved is due in part to the skills of the facilitator, Felipe Costa, who gave his very best during the informal negotiations. Moreover, the flexibility and cooperation demonstrated by all delegations resulted in consensus after the second reading of the original draft text. We sincerely hope that that same spirit will prevail in 2005. I therefore thank all colleagues who participated in the informal consultations for their cooperation and support.

Having introduced draft resolution A/59/L.50/Rev.1 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, I hope that the General Assembly will adopt it by consensus. I wish also to announce that Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia and Turkey have joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The President (*spoke in French*): I should like to consult the Assembly with a view to proceeding immediately to consider the revised draft resolution contained in document A/59/L.33/Rev.1, as orally corrected.

In that connection, since the revised draft resolution has been circulated only today, it would be necessary to waive the relevant provision of rule 78 of the rules of procedure, which reads as follows:

> "As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting of the General Assembly unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations not later than the day preceding the meeting."

Unless I hear any objections, I shall take it that the Assembly agrees to that proposal.

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now proceed to consider draft resolutions A/59/L.33/Rev.1, as orally corrected, and A/59/L.50/Rev.1.

The Assembly will turn first to draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1, as orally corrected, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/59/L.33/Rev.1, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/254).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.50/Rev.1, entitled "Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.50/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/59/L.50/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 59/255).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to conclude its consideration of sub-items (a) and (b) of agenda item 38 and of agenda item 38 as a whole?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 41 (*continued*)

The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the Assembly held its debate on this agenda item, jointly with agenda item 12, at its 41st plenary meeting, held on 26 October 2004.

It is my understanding that it would be desirable to defer consideration of this item to the sixty-first session of the General Assembly. May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to defer consideration of this item and to include it in the provisional agenda of the sixty-first session?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 41.

Agenda item 46 (*continued*)

2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Draft resolution (A/59/L.56)

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the General Assembly held the debate on agenda item 46, jointly with sub-items (a) and (b) of agenda item 38, at its 33rd to 36th plenary meetings on 18 and 19 October 2004.

I call on the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.56 on behalf of the African Union.

Mrs. Kafanabo (United Republic of Tanzania): On behalf of the African Union and all sponsors, the United Republic of Tanzania has the honour to introduce, under agenda item 46, the draft resolution entitled "2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa", as contained in document A/59/L.56.

In addition to the sponsors listed in the document, the following have joined the list of sponsors: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, Portugal, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Slovakia, Slovenia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Zimbabwe.

Africa bears an overwhelming proportion of the malaria burden. Statistics from the World Health Organization show that malaria is Africa's leading cause of under-five mortality and an important cause of anaemia and other malarial complications in pregnant women, constitutes 10 per cent of the continent's overall disease burden, and accounts for 40 per cent of public health expenditure.

Malaria is, however, a disease that is preventable, treatable and curable. It is thus in the effort to combat malaria, as well as to implement Millennium Development Goal Six, that the African Union is introducing the draft resolution entitled "2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa".

In its preambular part, the draft resolution takes note of the declarations and decisions on malaria adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the declaration and plan of action on the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000, and the Maputo Declaration on Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its second ordinary session, held in Maputo from 10 to 12 July 2003. In addition, the draft resolution recognizes the efforts being made to reach the targets set in the Abuja Summit as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal and the targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration.

In the operative part, the draft resolution takes note of the Secretary-General's report contained in document A/59/261 and calls for support of the recommendations contained therein. It also calls upon the international community to continue to support the "Roll Back Malaria" partner organizations and appeals to them to ensure increased support for bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The draft resolution expresses concern about the resistant strains of malaria and urges the adoption of measures to combat that resistance.

My delegation wishes to thank all member States that participated in the discussion of the draft resolution. Their contributions have resulted in this important draft resolution, the implementation of which will facilitate the eradication of that deadly disease.

My delegation, introducing the draft resolution on 2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, hopes that, as in previous years, it will be adopted by consensus.

The President (*spoke in French*): We shall now proceed to consider draft resolution A/59/L.56.

I wish to indicate that, since the submission of the draft resolution, the following countries have been added to the list of sponsors: Bolivia, Cameroon, Madagascar and Mali.

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.56?

Draft resolution A/59/L.56 was adopted (resolution 59/256).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 46?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 56 (*continued*)

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:

(d) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Draft resolution (A/59/L.57)

(k) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

Draft resolution (A/59/L.55)

(o) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

Draft resolution (A/59/L.41/Rev.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): Members will recall that the Assembly held its debate on agenda item 56 and its sub-items (a) to (t) at its 38th to 40th plenary meetings on 21 and 22 October 2004.

I call on the representative of Panama to introduce draft resolutions A/59/L.41/Rev.1 and A/59/L.55.

Mr. Tejeira (Panama) (*spoke in Spanish*): It is an honour for the delegation of Panama to introduce, on behalf of the sponsors, the draft resolutions contained in documents A/59/L.41/Rev.1 and A/59/L.55, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States" and "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System", respectively. Panama is introducing draft resolution A/59/L.41/Rev.1 in its capacity as Chairman of the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States. The draft resolution underscores and acknowledges the important role played by both organizations in seeking to promote social progress, improve standards of living of peoples, particularly in developing countries, and promote the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In addition to the countries listed in document A/59/L.41/Rev.1, the delegations of the Bahamas, Dominica and Spain have joined the list of sponsors.

Panama, in its capacity as December's Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, wishes now to introduce draft resolution A/59/L.55, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System".

I wish at the outset to note two revisions to the draft resolution. In paragraph 1, the word "Welcomes" should be replaced with the words "Takes note of". And in paragraph 4, the words "including the Millennium Goals" are to be replaced with the words "including those contained in the Millennium Declaration".

The draft resolution bears in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System, in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the fields of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments.

On behalf of the sponsors of draft resolutions A/59/L.41/Rev.1 and A/59/L.55, we hope that, as has been the case with similar texts in previous years, the General Assembly will adopt both draft resolutions by consensus.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now proceed to consider draft resolutions A/59/L.41/Rev.1, A/59/L.55, as orally revised, and A/59/L.57.

We will first take a decision on draft resolution A/59/L.41/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States". Before the Assembly takes a decision on the draft resolution, I wish to indicate that since the introduction of draft resolution A/59/L.41/Rev.1 Grenada has joined the list of sponsors.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.41/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/59/L.41/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 59/257).

The President (*spoke in French*): We turn next to draft resolution A/59/L.55, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System", as orally revised.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.55, as orally revised?

Draft resolution A/59/L.55, as orally revised, was adopted (resolution 59/258).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution A/59/L.57 is entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/59/L.57?

Draft resolution A/59/L.57 was adopted (resolution 59/259).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-items (d), (k) and (o) of agenda item 56?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 56.

Reports of the First Committee, Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), Third Committee, Fifth Committee and Sixth Committee

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now take up the reports of five Main Committees as follows: the report of the First Committee on agenda item 109; the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on agenda item 109; the reports of the Third Committee on agenda items 98, 101, sub-items (a) and (c) of agenda item 105 and 109, the report of the Sixth Committee on agenda item 150, as well as the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 106, 111 to 119, 121, 122, 109, 108 and 107.

If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the First Committee, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), the Third Committee, the Fifth Committee and the Sixth Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of those five Main Committees have been made clear in the Committees and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I further remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the First Committee, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), the Third Committee, the Fifth Committee and the Sixth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Committees unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance.

This means that where a recorded or separate vote was taken, we will do the same. I would also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the respective Committees.

Agenda item 109 (*continued*)

Programme planning

Report of the First Committee (A/59/618)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the First Committee?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 109.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the First Committee.

Agenda item 109 (*continued*)

Programme planning

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/59/621)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 109.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

Agenda item 98 (*continued*)

Advancement of women

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/496)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/641)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will take action on draft resolution III recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 27 of its report.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution III is contained in document A/59/641. Draft resolution III is entitled "Future operation of the "International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Latvia, New Zealand, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining:

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

Draft resolution III was adopted by 125 votes to 10, with 30 abstentions (resolution 59/260).

[Subsequently, the delegation of Greece advised the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 98?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 101 (*continued*)

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/499)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/642)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will take action on draft resolution II recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 35 of its report.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution II is contained in document A/59/642.

I call on the representative of the United States, who wishes to speak on explanation of vote before the voting.

Mr. Kennedy (United States of America): The United States would like to bring to the attention of the General Assembly the amendments submitted by our delegation to draft resolution II, on the rights of the child, during its consideration by the Third Committee (see A/59/499, para. 16). We are not going to resubmit those amendments in plenary meeting, but we would like to state that our position has not changed. The United States wishes to underscore our concerns with regard to the phrasing in this draft resolution of references to the International Criminal Court, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the juvenile death penalty, among other provisions.

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II is entitled: "Rights of the child".

Separate votes have been requested on operative paragraph 9, operative paragraph 23 (b) and on the words "corporal punishment" in operative paragraph 38 (b) of draft resolution II.

In the absence of objection, I will first put to the vote operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution II, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Viet Nam, Yemen

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Jordan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Uganda

Operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution II was retained by 110 votes to 26, with 12 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 23 (b) of draft resolution II, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Malaysia, Singapore, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Dominica, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kuwait, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

Operative paragraph 23 (b) of draft resolution II was retained by 116 votes to 4, with 33 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I shall next put to the vote the words "corporal punishment" in operative paragraph 38 (b) of draft resolution II, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Malaysia, Singapore, United Republic of Tanzania

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

The words "corporal punishment" in operative paragraph 38 (b) of draft resolution II were retained by 115 votes to 3, with 34 abstentions.

The President (*spoke in French*): I now put to the vote draft resolution II, as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against:

Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining:

India

Draft resolution II as a whole was adopted by 166 votes to 2, with 1 abstention (resolution 59/261).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 101?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 105 (*continued*)

Human rights questions

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.1)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/639)

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will take action on draft resolution I, recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 20 of its report.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution I is contained in document A/59/639.

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families", without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/262).

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/503/Add.3)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/640)

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will now take action on draft resolution I, recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 60 of its report.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution I is contained in document A/59/640.

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar", without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/263).

The President (*spoke in French*): I give the floor to the representative of Myanmar, who wishes to speak in explanation of position on the resolution just adopted.

Mr. Tun (Myanmar): For reasons that my delegation explained extensively in the Third Committee, my delegation dissociates itself from resolution 59/263.

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 109

Programme planning (*continued*)

Report of the Third Committee (A/59/609)

The President (*spoke in French*): May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to take note of the report of the Third Committee?

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 109.

The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of all the reports of the Third Committee.

Agenda item 150

International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings

Report of the Sixth Committee (A/59/516)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/638)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Sixth Committee in paragraph 11 of its report.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the draft decision is contained in document A/59/638.

We will now take action on the draft decision, entitled "Working Group to finalize the text of a United Nations declaration on human cloning".

The Sixth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 150.

The General Assembly has also thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Sixth Committee.

Reports of the Fifth Committee

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly will consider the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 106, 111 to 119, 121, 122, 109, 108 and 107.

I request the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mrs. Denisa Hutănová of Slovakia, to introduce in one intervention the reports of the Fifth Committee.

Mrs. Hutănová (Slovakia), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: Today I have the honour to present to the General Assembly the reports of the Fifth Committee containing recommendations on issues that require action during the main part of the fifty-ninth regular session of the General Assembly.

The Fifth Committee met on 30 September and from 4 October to 22 December 2004, and it held 33 plenary meetings and more than 100 rounds of informal consultations — and innumerable "informal informal" consultations held outside Conference Room 5.

In paragraph 7 of its report on agenda item 106, "Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors", contained in document A/59/588, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which the Committee adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 6 of its report on agenda item 111, "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency", contained in document A/59/605, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 6 of its report on agenda item 112, "Pattern of conferences", contained in document A/59/644, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 6 of its report on agenda item 113, "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations", contained in document A/59/421/Add.1, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 7 of its report on agenda item 114, "Human resources management", contained in document A/59/650, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 8 of its report on agenda item 115, "Joint Inspection Unit", contained in document A/59/646, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 9 of its report on agenda item 116, "United Nations common system", contained in document A/59/647, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote. I should like to announce a correction to the draft resolution: in paragraph 5 of section A, the words "strategy on pilot projects" should read "strategy or pilot project".

In paragraph 8 of its report on agenda item 117, "United Nations pension system", contained in document A/59/606, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 7 of its report on agenda item 118, "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services", contained in document A/59/648, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of two draft resolutions, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 5 of its report on agenda item 119, "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244", contained in document A/59/649, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

The reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 121, "Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994", and on agenda item 122, "Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia", are contained in documents A/59/603 and A/59/604 respectively. In paragraph 6 of each of those reports, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraph 9 of its report on agenda item 109, "Programme planning", contained in A/59/651, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution, which it adopted without a vote.

In paragraphs 41 and 44 of its report on agenda item 108, Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, contained in document A/59/448/Add.2, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of two draft resolutions and two draft decisions. Draft resolution I relates to questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, and draft resolution II relates to revised budget appropriations for the biennium 2004-2005, revised income estimates for the biennium 2004-2005 and financing of the appropriations for the year 2005. Draft decision I deals with programme budget implications of recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and draft decision II relates to revised estimates and programme budget implications: effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation. All those draft proposals were adopted by the Committee without a vote. Also under agenda item 108, the Committee considered six statements on programme budget implications. The reports of the Fifth Committee on each of those statements are contained in documents A/59/638 to A/59/642.

In paragraph 9 of its report on agenda item 107, "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", contained in document A/59/652, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2006-2007, by which the Assembly would invite the Secretary-General to prepare his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 on the basis of a preliminary estimate of $3,621,900,000 at revised 2004-2005 rates. It would also decide that the contingency fund shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, namely, at $27.2 million. Also, in paragraph 10 of the same report, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft decision relating to questions deferred for future consideration. Both draft proposals were adopted by the Committee without a vote.

I wish to thank delegations for their cooperation and to assure them that the changes made during the Fifth Committee's 33rd formal meeting, held yesterday afternoon, have been duly taken into account and are reflected in the reports which are before the Assembly this afternoon.

Before I conclude, allow me on a brief personal note to thank the Chairman of the Fifth Committee, Ambassador Don MacKay, for the noble way in which he guided us through our difficult work. My thanks go also to my fellow Bureau members. Working with them is always a truly enjoyable experience. On behalf of all of us, I would like to record our profound thanks to the representatives of the Secretariat for their tireless patience and support, and especially to the secretariat of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Moses Abelian and Mrs. Nora Benary and their staff. And last but not least, many thanks go to Mr. Vladimir Kuznetsov, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. I would like to thank all those I have had the privilege and honour to be seated next to on the podium of Conference Room 3 for their pleasant company. I wish everyone wonderful holidays.

The President (*spoke in French*): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee that are before it today.

It was so decided.

The President (*spoke in French*): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote or position.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Committee have been made in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records. May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401 the Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I also remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Committee.

Agenda item 106

Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/588)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

*The draft resolution was adopted (*resolution 59/264*).*

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 106.

Agenda item 111

Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/605)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. We will now take action on the draft decision, entitled "Budgetary and financial situation of the organizations of the United Nations system". The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 111.

Agenda item 112

Pattern of conferences

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/644)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

*The draft resolution was adopted (*resolution 59/265*).*

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 112.

Agenda item 113 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/421/Add.1)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

*The draft resolution was adopted (*resolution 59/266*).*

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 113.

Agenda item 114

Human resources management

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/650)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/267).

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 114.

Agenda item 115

Joint Inspection Unit

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/646)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution entitled "Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit". The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/268).

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 115.

Agenda item 116

United Nations common system

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/647)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 9 of its report. We will now take a decision on the draft resolution entitled "United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission", as orally corrected. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution, as orally corrected?

The draft resolution, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 59/269).

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 116.

Agenda item 117

United Nations pension system

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/606)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 8 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/270).

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 117.

Agenda item 118

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/648)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services". The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/271).

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft resolution II is entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services".

The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

*Draft resolution II was adopted (*resolution 59/272*).*

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 118.

Agenda item 119

Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/649)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 5 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

*The draft resolution was adopted (*resolution 59/273*).*

The President (*spoke in French*): I now give the floor to the representatives wishing to speak in explanation of position on the decisions just taken.

Ms. Goicochea Estenoz (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation wishes to explain its position on the draft resolutions adopted under agenda items 118 and 119.

First, the delegation of Cuba attaches great importance to the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, a United Nations structure responsible for monitoring, audit, investigation, evaluation and inspection services. In that connection, we reiterate that the work of the Office must be fully in accordance with its mandate under resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244.

Secondly, the delegation of Cuba reaffirms the General Assembly's prerogative to consider and take action on all reports submitted to it, including the relevant reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services. We do not believe that this restricts the role of the Office, but rather reinforces its authority, because such consideration gives Member States an opportunity to voice their opinions on the recommendations of the Office. Similarly, when formulating its recommendations, the Office must fully respect the prerogatives of the General Assembly with regard to the adoption, modification and abolition of mandates.

Our delegation wishes to reaffirm that we have participated in the process of negotiating and adopting these resolutions, reflecting our serious-mindedness, commitment and respect for the negotiating process and for other delegations. It is not our practice to employ double standards in our work. We have too much self-respect for that. We similarly respect our colleagues. We therefore firmly reject statements levelled at us during formal meetings of the Fifth Committee, seeking to accuse my delegation of a lack of transparency in the negotiating process on these resolutions.

Our Fifth Committee colleagues are very well aware of the Cuban delegation's transparency, responsibility and earnestness. They also know our commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, including respect for sovereignty. In that connection, I would note that, as it participates in these processes, my delegation reaffirms its sovereign right to defend its positions, while acting with the flexibility needed to make it possible to adopt draft resolutions.

Here, my delegation wishes to reaffirm its thanks to and its support for the Bureau of the Fifth Committee, and the coordinator on these items; it was through their collective work that we were able to adopt these resolutions.

Mr. Zellenrath (Netherlands): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union. Switzerland aligns itself with this statement.

Yesterday, during the 33rd formal meeting of the Fifth Committee, the European Union expressed its disappointment at the background of the adoption of draft resolution I, under agenda item 118, contained in document A/59/648. We reiterate that the European Union does not accept that recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services should be endorsed by the General Assembly.

The European Union does not see resolution 59/271 as changing in any way the current practice with regard to implementing recommendations of the Office.

Mr. Kennedy (United States of America): My delegation strongly associates itself with the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union and Switzerland.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 119.

Agenda item 121

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/603)

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/274).

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 121.

Agenda item 122

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/604)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 6 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/275).

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 122.

Agenda item 109 (*continued*)

Programme planning

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/651)

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 9 of its report.

I give the floor to the representative of Cuba, who wishes to speak in explanation of position before a decision is taken on the draft resolution.

Mr. Cumberbach Miguén (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): Before the General Assembly takes action on the draft resolution before it, my delegation wishes to state its position on the document that is to be adopted as programme 19 of the strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007.

First of all, Cuba is astonished that a serious debate on this issue was prevented in the context of the work of the Commission on Human Rights, and that there were intentional delays in negotiations both in the Committee for Programme and Coordination and in the General Assembly. It is inexplicable that a group of delegations refused to alter even a comma in the Secretariat text, despite the first version's obvious violations of the guidelines for the drafting of such documents.

The biennial programmes do not give rise to legislative mandates. They should be formulated solely on the basis of the set of resolutions adopted by the various competent bodies of the United Nations system. Moreover, they should address the work of the Secretariat, not the work of Member States.

It is therefore alarming that, in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, the authors of the original document completely ignored the language agreed upon on an intergovernmental basis. With regard to section A of subprogramme 1, the idea of using the strategic framework in order to change legislative mandates is cause for particular concern. We would like to place on record our reservations in that regard, and to say that we will continue to closely follow the implementation of that subprogramme. The promotion and protection of human rights should not be used as a tool to interfere in the internal affairs of the States Members of the Organization. Nor should attempts be made to rewrite the original mandate set out for the funds and programmes of the United Nations, either through a biased interpretation of the implementation of the whole host of human rights or by linking them to the activities undertaken by the various bodies of the Organization.

Such a distortion of the debates on issues pertaining to human rights only confirms the current trend whereby developed countries are hijacking many aspects of the work of the Organization in this area in an attempt to serve their own political interests, thereby obliterating any semblance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity in the workings of the United Nations human rights machinery. That only serves to produce further confrontation between developing and developed countries and to minimize progress towards true protection and promotion of human rights for all at all levels. In so doing, the United Nations would be going along with the role of judge in matters pertaining to human rights issues that some Member States have bestowed upon themselves while fully ignoring their own particular problems or those of their allies. None of that contributes to restoring the prestige being lost by United Nations bodies working in the field of human rights, starting with the Commission on Human Rights itself.

Our delegation will work to ensure that the next United Nations goal-setting cycle in the area of human rights is as open and democratic as called for by the subject. We will also firmly oppose any recurrence of the situation we encountered this year.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 9 of its report. The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/276).

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 109.

Agenda item 108 (*continued*)

Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/448/Add.2)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it two draft resolutions recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 41 of its report, and two draft decisions recommended by the Committee in paragraph 42 of the same report. The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions I and II and on draft decisions I and II. We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005". The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 59/277).

The President (*spoke in French*): We turn next to draft resolution II, entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005". The Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 59/278).

The President (*spoke in French*): We turn next to draft decision I, entitled "Programme budget implications of recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision I was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): Draft decision II is entitled "Revised estimates and programme budget implications: effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation". The Fifth Committee adopted draft decision II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft decision II was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): I now call on the representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position on the decisions just taken.

Ms. Goicochea Estenoz (Cuba) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation would like to comment on resolution 59/277, as it pertains to special political missions. My delegation attaches the utmost importance to that resolution. We would especially like to emphasize the importance we attach to the paragraphs regarding the need to ensure that the Security Council takes full account of the prerogatives of the General Assembly when it takes decisions on special political missions. The delegation of Cuba believes it essential that the Security Council refrain from in any way interfering in matters falling under the purview of the General Assembly when it comes to approving special political missions. My delegation also believes that that will undoubtedly facilitate the decision-taking process in the General Assembly.

We therefore eagerly await the draft budget for special political missions to be presented by the Secretary-General at the sixtieth session of the General Assembly. In particular, we look forward to a review and revision of the structure of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, which my delegation believes should be streamlined and rationalized in line with the nature of the Directorate's work.

Mr. Elji (Syrian Arab Republic) (*spoke in Arabic*): I would just like to note that the Arabic version of the draft resolutions just adopted did not take into account the oral revisions made in the Fifth Committee. I request that those revisions be included in the final documents.

The President (*spoke in French*): We have taken note of the comments made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic. The necessary corrections will be made.

The General Assembly has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of agenda item 108.

Agenda item 107

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/59/652)

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has before it a draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 9 of its report, and a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 10 of the same report.

We will now take a decision on the draft resolution and on the draft decision.

The draft resolution is entitled "Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2006-2007". The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 59/279).

The President (*spoke in French*): The draft decision is entitled "Questions deferred for future consideration". The Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

The draft decision was adopted.

The President (*spoke in French*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 107.

I give the floor to those representatives who wish to make statements after the Assembly's consideration of the reports of the Fifth Committee.

Mr. Al-Ansari (Qatar): I have the honour to speak today on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The Group of 77 and China attaches the greatest importance to all the issues considered by the Fifth Committee, recommendations on which have been approved today by the General Assembly. In particular, the Group would like to highlight some of those issues. It should be understood that addressing only some of our decisions does not imply that others not highlighted are of any lesser importance.

The Group of 77 and China stresses that the Secretary-General should present the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, in a form fully reflecting the priorities just approved by the General Assembly. Particular attention should be given to programmes and activities related to social and economic development. In this context, the Group of 77 and China emphasize the crucial importance of the implementation of the right to development and reaffirm the validity of the Declaration on the Right to Development. The Group hopes that the implementation of any efficiency measure will not impact negatively on mandated programmes and activities.

The Group looks forward to the full implementation of resolution 59/267, on human resources management, in particular the results and findings of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the audit on the implementation of application of the principle of geographical representation at all levels. Furthermore, we reiterate the necessity of ensuring that women from developing countries are accorded equal opportunity in the recruitment process, and we look forward to the full implementation of the relevant paragraphs in that context.

On the question of programme budget implications, the Group regrets that the General Assembly did not approve at this stage either a subvention or a payment for the rental and maintenance costs of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. The Group will address this issue comprehensively during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

Concerning the Office of Internal Oversight Services, the Group reiterates its full support to the role of that Office. The Group of 77 and China recognize the primary role of the General Assembly in the consideration of and action on the reports submitted to it, as reflected in paragraph 4 of resolution 59/273.

Finally, the Group of 77 and China would like to state that, in general, although they have small delegations, they endeavoured to participate actively at all levels of the negotiation process, whether at "informal informals" or in informal consultations.

This session was exceptional with regard to its workload. The Group of 77 and China delegations negotiated under the pressure of time and in very stressful situations, and often showed maximum flexibility to take on board the concerns of other delegations. The Group wishes to emphasize that all the negotiations were held in a very open, transparent and friendly atmosphere and in good faith.

Furthermore, the Group emphasizes the need for building further confidence among all negotiating partners and ensuring respect for each other's position; we look forward to continuing this partnership in our future interactions.

Ms. Udo (Nigeria): The Nigerian delegation, as coordinator for one of the agenda items the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China has just addressed — agenda item 118, on the Office of Internal Oversight Services — feels obliged to make this statement to address some issues that were raised during the Fifth Committee's meeting yesterday, 22 December 2004.

Nigeria views with absolute seriousness, dedication and integrity any assignment conferred upon it. It was in that same spirit that we approached the responsibility of coordinating the Committee's work on agenda item 118, "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services". As the coordinator, Nigeria, to the best of its ability, remained totally neutral all through the discussions and the ensuing negotiations on the item.

Furthermore, we truthfully and seriously reflected the wishes of the Fifth Committee, as expressed by all who participated in the negotiations. The draft text on this item, dated 6 December, contained in its paragraph 10 the words "endorses the applicable recommendation of OIOS". The Fifth Committee amended "applicable" to "relevant". The final text of the resolution, dated 10 December 2004, reflected this in its paragraph 7, which begins with the words as amended: "Endorses the relevant recommendation of the Office". It was therefore with utmost shock and disappointment that we heard some comments to the effect that some delegations — which, as the coordinator on this item, we can confirm never missed a meeting on this item — did not know how some words had "crept into" the text of the draft resolution.

As we stated yesterday, Nigeria presented to the General Assembly for adoption the draft text that the Fifth Committee, acting on behalf of the General Assembly, had approved and adopted. We deeply regret the fact that our work on this agenda item, which was conducted in a most cordial atmosphere, was concluded in a most unfortunate manner, with unguarded, unfair and unwarranted statements by some delegations.

Nigeria wishes to seize this opportunity to once more express our appreciation to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee and to those delegations that spoke to commend us on the way we conducted the negotiations — as well as to those who spoke to reject the unhealthy development that the Fifth Committee witnessed yesterday.

It is our sincere hope that we will not witness such an incident again, as incidents of that kind do not in any way augur well for the work of this Organization.

Mr. Kennedy (United States of America): As this session of the Fifth Committee ends, my delegation would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chair of the Fifth Committee, the Permanent Representative of New Zealand, for his efforts. I would also like to express our appreciation for the excellent work of the Committee staff. Lastly, we appreciate the continuing exemplary support that the Committee has received from the Controller's office. Since we have now learned that this will be the last Fifth Committee effort for Jean-Pierre Halbwachs, his years of distinguished service to the United Nations must also be acknowledged.

The President (*spoke in French*): The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Fifth Committee before it.

Programme of work

The President (*spoke in French*): Apart from organizational matters and items that may have to be considered by operation of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and bearing in mind the consideration and action already taken by the Assembly on items, I should like to propose that the following agenda items remain for consideration during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly: 3 (b), 4 to 6, 10 to 12, 15 (c), 17 (h), (i) and (j), 19, 20, 24, 26, 27, 36, 37, 40, 43, 45, 48, 52 to 55, 56 (g), 56 (n), 75, 77, 84, 85 (b), 105 (b), 106 to 137, 146, 148, 150, 153 to 156, 158 and 163.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly that those agenda items should remain for consideration during the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly?

It was so decided.

Statement by the President

The President (*spoke in French*): We have come to the end of the first phase of our work, a very busy but a productive period, when the General Assembly considered many agenda items. In particular, 279 resolutions were adopted, 208 of them by consensus. Before suspending the proceedings at this stage, let me just make a few brief observations on the progress achieved and on our work ahead.

Among all the items that we took up, three major items characterize this first phase: continuing the process of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly; publication of the report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (A/59/565); and preparations for the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, to be held in September 2005. On 17 December, by consensus, we adopted resolution 59/145, on the organizational modalities for that event. Those three items exemplify our general thinking on reform, indeed, our thinking on the Organization's capacity to adapt to the challenges of our time.

During the general debate, our leaders reaffirmed, inter alia, the need to reform the United Nations system. That augurs well, because the present reform process, if it is to succeed, must be supported by genuine political will. In fact, as the report of the High-level Panel has emphasized, and I concur, our institutions "will still only be as strong as the energy, resources and attention devoted to them by Member States and their leaders" (*A/59/565, report, part four, synopsis*).

With respect to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, I welcome the progress that has been made. In addition to what we did during the fifty-eighth session, we have also made some tremendous efforts, in terms both of content and of the rationalization of our programme of work.

We have undertaken implementation of resolutions 58/126 and 58/316, concerning the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly. The role of the General Committee grew during the first part of the fifty-ninth session. There were informal meetings to consider working methods, the revitalization of the Assembly and the preparation of the high-level plenary meeting to be held in 2005. Other informal meetings were held on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, on children and armed conflict and on humanitarian assistance.

In conformity with those two resolutions, the Main Commissions got down to rationalizing their programmes of work and their agendas. How could we fail to appreciate all the progress made towards restoring the authority and the central role of the General Assembly as a universal institution? Contrary to the common, but false, image of an impotent General Assembly, the work of women and men on a daily basis shows that the General Assembly is a dynamic institution indeed. Its decisions, while less spectacular, have for more than half a century fashioned the international order and will continue to transform our respective nations.

A major element of the success of the revitalization process is the shared conviction of all Member States of the indispensable nature of the General Assembly. The Assembly remains the sole legitimate framework where all the nations of the world can express their aspirations. It makes a strong contribution to remoulding the face of the United Nations, giving it a little more radiance and credibility — even though it is true that much remains to be done for us to live up to all our noble responsibilities under the Charter. In order to pursue the revitalization of the Assembly, I am counting on the support and assistance of all. As members know, I have appointed five facilitators who will be coordinating our collective efforts: the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Kenya, Singapore and Sweden. I have no doubt that they will be up to the task, and I urge members to support them.

The report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change is also a major contribution towards the objective of adapting the United Nations to the realities of the twenty-first century. Once again, I must congratulate the Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, who took the welcome initiative to write a report containing courageous proposals. Our consultations on the report, to be held in January, should enable us to provide appropriate responses to the great concerns of the day. We will also have to explore the recommendations of the Millennium Project report, under the guidance of Mr. Jeffrey Sachs, whose publication is scheduled for 17 January 2005. As I indicated in the road map that I submitted to members yesterday, Wednesday, 22 December 2004, the release of the Secretary-General's comprehensive report, which is expected in March 2005, will be the starting point for substantive consultations with an eye to the high-level plenary meeting in September 2005.

If we want to ensure genuine collective security; if we want to eradicate poverty; if we want to put an end to deadly pandemics, particularly HIV/AIDS and malaria; if we want to eradicate war, transnational crime, famine and environmental degradation — in short, if we truly want to build a model society for future generations, we must go beyond statements of principle and do our utmost to live up to our commitments, particularly in the social and economic fields. When we return in January 2005, we must therefore redouble our fervour to work to find concrete and appropriate solutions to the problems facing the United Nations.

We must advance the ongoing reform process in this crucial period in the Organization's history. In that regard, we must also make every effort to follow the road map so that we can prepare for the high-level plenary meeting to the best of our ability. By working together to prepare well for that very important September 2005 meeting, we will greatly help to bring about the changes so much needed by the Organization. We will thus provide the means to better meet the legitimate expectations of the world's peoples for more peace, justice, freedom and solidarity.

Before concluding, I should like once again to take this opportunity to congratulate all delegations on their valuable contributions to the formulation and adoption by consensus of resolution 59/145, which enables us to plan now for the events of 2005 with a greater sense of calm. I should also like once again to sincerely thank the members of the Secretariat, particularly Mr. Jian Chen, Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management, and his Department for the inestimable support that they have consistently given me since I took office.

Finally, I wish everyone all the best and a pleasant vacation.

The meeting rose at 7.15 p.m.

United Nations A/59/PV.76/Corr.1

General Assembly

Fifty-ninth session

Official Records

76th plenary meeting

Thursday, 23 December 2004, 4 p.m.
New York

Corrigendum

This corrigendum is issued to correct the resolution numbers, beginning on page 13, second column, at the bottom. Resolution 59/266 should be resolution 59/1 B. All subsequent resolutions are renumbered accordingly.

Page 14

Resolution 59/267 should be 59/266; 59/268 should be 59/267; 59/269 should be 59/268; 59/270 should be 59/269; and 59/271 should be 59/270.

Page 15

Resolution 59/272 should be 59/271, and 59/273 should be 59/272. In the second column, penultimate paragraph, second line, the reference to resolution 59/271 should read 59/270.

Page 16

Resolution 59/274 should be 59/273, and 59/275 should be 59/274.

Page 17

Resolution 59/276 should be 59/275; 59/277 should be 59/276; and 59/278 should be 59/277. In the last paragraph of the second column, third line, the reference to resolution 59/277 should read resolution 59/276.

Page 18

Resolution 59/279 should be 59/278. In the second column, penultimate paragraph, second line, the reference to resolution 59/267 should read resolution 59/266.

Page 19, first column, first full paragraph, last line

The reference to resolution 59/273 should read 59/272.